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9 February 1983

SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT

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ECONOMISTS REDUCE ESTIMATES OF 1982 GROWTH RATES

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 21 Nov 82 p 12

[Article: "1982 Growth Rates for ASEAN Nations Range from 2.6 to 6 Percent"]

[Text] ASEAN economists estimate the 1982 growth rates for ASEAN nations will range from 2.6 to 6 percent. The provisional calculations made in early 1982 forecast growth rates of 6.5 to 10 percent, as noted by Dr. Arifin M. Siregar, general chairman of the Indonesian Economists Association (ISEI), who hosted the annual session of the Federation of ASEAN Economists Associations held in Bali from 18 to 20 November.

Under the new forecast, Malaysia, whose growth rate was provisionally forecast as 7.2 percent earlier, will be happy to achieve a growth rate of 3.5 to 4.5 percent. Meanwhile, as newly calculated, the estimated growth rate for the Philippines was altered from 6.5 percent to 2.6 to 4.1 percent; that of Thailand from 6.9 to 4.6 to 5 percent; and that of Indonesia from 6.5 to 4 to 6 percent. Even Singapore's estimated growth rate has been reduced from 10 percent as earlier forecast to 5 to 7 percent. The dependence of ASEAN and other developing nations on international trade and capital investment by and technology received from advanced nations has made an impact on the economies of these nations, Dr. Siregar said.

The delay in adjusting the advanced nation economic structures, particularly to the increases in oil prices during 1973-74 and 1979-80, followed by budget deficits, high inflation and interest rates has complicated efforts toward the economic recovery of these nations.

Short-term policies such as the tight monetary policy and various forms of protectionism only further hampered the growth of these nations. The results of these policies, the ASEAN economist said, affected not only the advanced nations but all nations in the world.

In attempting to overcome the impact of the worldwide recession, nations in the ASEAN region made a number of adjustments in their development policies. Rather drastic measures were taken by Malaysia.

Large-scale changes have been made in the just completed Malaysian fourth 5-year development plan.

The greater part of the development projects planned for this plan period have been postponed, including hospital construction. Meanwhile Thailand has increased its efforts to attract foreign capital investment and has cut imports. The Philippines has accelerated its budget and has consciously increased export services like the export of manpower to the Middle East and the United States. Singapore is increasing its efforts to become a financial center for the ASEAN region.

Indonesia, Dr. Siregar said, is trying to increase nonoil exports. In addition it must economize by reducing subsidies as well as taking other measures.

The seventh annual session of the Federation of ASEAN Economist Associations held in Bali also discussed measures which must be undertaken jointly to supplement the measures already taken by the respective nations. These measures are to be taken to improve ASEAN nation capability to compete with other nations. Dr Siregard added that the views and ideas expressed during the federation's seventh session were the personal views and ideas of the participants. The next session of the federation will be held in Manila in May 1983.

6804

CSO: 4213/23

PORTUGAL CRITICIZED IN UN DEBATE ON EAST TIMOR

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 19 Oct 82 pp 1, 12

[Article: "Ambassador Ali Alatas Parries Portuguese Criticism--FRETILIN Only an 'Esteemed Collaborator' of the Colonial Regime"]

[Text] Indonesia declared to the UN General Assembly that the so-called FRETILIN [Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor] movement was not a true freedom movement representing the people of East Timor, but only an "esteemed collaborator" of the Portuguese colonial regime.

Drawing upon the right of response during debates of the 37th session of the UN General Assembly on Friday evening, Indonesian Ambassador Ali Alatas said the establishment of FRETILIN dated only from 1974 after the revolution in Portugal that same year.

"FRETILIN never struggled against Portuguese colonialism. Its leaders were no more esteemed collaborators of the Portuguese colonial regime and its armed members no more than ex-colonial soldiers," he said.

In 1975 the Portuguese colonial government, itself, openly supported and helped FRETILIN to seize power by undemocratic means involving the force of arms. At that time in East Timor there were four other political parties: Apodeti [Timorese Democratic People's Union], UDT, Kota and Trabalista.

The Portuguese colonial administration itself also conceded that UDT constituted one of these five parties. This acknowledgement occurred because UDT with Apodeti, Kota and Trabalista clearly represented the majority of the population and clearly controlled most of the territory in East Timor. Thus, in May 1976 "the people expressed their desire to pursue independence through integration in accordance with their right to self-determination," said Ali Alatas.

As a nation whose people truly earned their independence by means of a revolutionary war, and which always has supported genuine freedom movements wherever they occurred, Indonesia has sufficient experience to differentiate between real independence movements and those that are spurious, those that are no more than veiled collaborators of the colonial regime, Alatas explained.

This being the case, Ambassador Alatas said that FRETILIN's remaining supporters in the Nonaligned Movement also should be able to tell the difference between real and spurious independence movements.

Responding to questions raised by Portugal which was the former government in power in East Timor, Ambassador Ali Alatas said that history would note that it was Portugal that had failed to do its duty. The Portuguese Government had irresponsibly abandoned the territory in August 1975 after permitting the development of a very precarious situation supporting the spurious FRETILIN party as it unleashed a reign of terror against its political opponents.

In East Timor it is clear said Alatas, that Portugal undertook no process of decolonization.

Because of this, there is a certain irony in Lisbon's position that after its failures in 1975, it now claims responsibility for East Timor and wishes to be accepted as the government over the latter territory.

Ambassador Alatas explained that Indonesia very much wished that Portugal had acted responsibly 7 years previously and thereby prevented civil war and thousands of civilian deaths in East Timor.

At the present time, the process of decolonization is proceeding ahead, in accordance with the wished of the population, by integration with Indonesia. And this process is immutable, he said.

Referring to the suffering that was caused by the civil war, Ali Alatas said this was not the responsibility of Indonesia but rather that it was the fault of Portugal and FRETILIN.

The Indonesian diplomat also took the occasion to deny that starvation and human violations had occurred in the former Portuguese territory. He said there were officials of respected international agencies such as the International Red Cross, the Catholic Relief Services, UNICEF and UNHCR [United Nations Office of High Commission for Refugees] in East Timor who constantly submitted reports on developments in that area.

The above statement was made by Ali Alatas in response to a view expressed by Portugal, Zimbabwe and several former Portuguese territories in Africa.

9464

CSO: 4213/17

NEW OIL CONTRACTS SIGNED

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 21 Oct 82 p 2

[Article: "Activities of Foreign Oil Contractors in Indonesia Remains at a High Level"]

[Excerpts] Minister of Mining and Energy Subroto declared that the activities of foreign oil contractors working in Indonesia remained at a high level in spite of the supply glut afflicting the oil-producing world. This continued activity is demonstrated by the rise in oil contracts signed by the Indonesian Government/PERTAMINA [State Oil and Gas Corporation] and foreign oil firms.

Minister Subroto brought out this fact Wednesday after witnessing the signing of a new contract between PERTAMINA and five foreign oil contractors for work in four new oil-bearing areas in Indonesia.

In 1982, 13 oil contracts were signed by PERTAMINA with foreign contractors. This total, said the minister, showed a sharp increase from 1981 during which 12 contracts were signed and from 1980 with 11 contracts.

"This situation shows that Indonesia is economically and politically stable compared with other countries," he said. He added that with the present world oil glut many firms had gone bankrupt or had been obliged to retrench severely. However in Indonesia, foreign contractors continued to carry on their normal activities.

Minister Subroto disclosed that until the present time, 75 oil contracts had been signed. These consisted of work contracts, production-sharing and technical aid contracts. Of the 75 areas being worked under contract, about 20 have started producing.

Foreign firms that signed production-sharing contracts with Indonesia/PERTAMINA last Wednesday were: Hudebay Oil International Ltd (represented by Mr R.G. Sawka, president and general manager), Husky Oil Ltd, Madura (represented by Mr T. Scott, resident manager), Pennzoil Asiatic Inc (represented by Mr E.J. Hesketh, senior international negotiator), Scepter Resources Ltd (represented by Mr H. Stuart McColl, director), and Promet Arafura Ltd

(represented by Mr Brian Chang, managing director). Indonesia was represented by Minister of Mining and Energy Subroto and Joedo Sumbono, director general of PERTAMINA.

The areas that will be worked by the contractors are located both onshore and offshore. In the Madura Straits, an area of 13,970 square kilometers will be worked by Hudbay Oil International Ltd, Pennzoil Asiatic Inc, and Husky Oil (Madura) Ltd. In the Java Sea, Block A, an area measuring 13,280 square kilometers and Block B, an area measuring 17,740 square kilometers, will be worked by Scepter Resources Ltd. In the Arafura Sea, Block Aru, an area measuring 18,315 square kilometers off Irian Jaya, will be worked by Promet Arafura Ltd.

The above areas will be explored in accordance with the production-sharing agreements with PERTAMINA. After exploration, the areas will be returned gradually to the government, so that after 6 years no more than 20 percent of the original areas will remain to be worked on by the foreign contractors.

9464

CSO: 4213/17

ALUMINUM PRODUCTION, EXPORT DISCUSSED

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 16 Oct 82 pp 1, 12

[Article: "Indonesia Begins To Export Aluminum"]

[Excerpts] PT Indonesia Asahan Aluminum (Inalum) has begun the export of its initial production of bar-shaped aluminum ingots to Japan. The first 8,000-ton shipment of such exports was sent out last Thursday from the port of Kuala Tanjung, North Sumatra.

The 8,000 tons of aluminum ingots thus exported are part of PT Inalum's production output which reached 18,653 tons by October. The second shipment to be sent out to Japan by December also will amount to 8,000 tons. Production of aluminum in Indonesia will amount to 29,262 tons by the end of 1982 and will reach 48,249 tons by March 1983.

According to Engineer Bisuk Siahaan in his statement to the press, the export price of aluminum is \$1,500 per ton FOB. This is higher than the spot market price which varies from \$1,050-\$1,100 per ton.

"The export price of aluminum will be based on the formula agreed upon by Indonesia and Japan," said Siahaan. Because of this, whether it wants to or not, Japan must meet the price that was agreed upon, although it is far in excess of the spot market price.

Beyond the matter of price, the export of Indonesian aluminum to Japan represents a joint commitment to the construction of the Asahan project and its aluminum plant. According to this commitment, one-third of the production of aluminum ingots may be used for domestic industrial needs in Indonesia, provided such industries are able to absorb this quantity of ingots. The remaining two-thirds of the production may be imported by Japan at an agreed-upon price. PT Inalum production for 1984 will reach 225,000 tons.

At the present time, as a result of the world economic recession, many industries that use aluminum as a raw material are not in operation. For example, in the United States, many industries such as aircraft, automobile, appliance and packaging manufacturers are not working. The result has been that the demand for aluminum has fallen while the supply has remained level. This has caused the price of aluminum to drop on the spot market to about

\$1,050 to \$1,100 a ton. The price of aluminum presently has fallen to its lowest level in 20 years.

Other information obtained by KOMPAS disclosed that although one-third of the production from PT Inalum has been reserved for domestic needs, the low price of aluminum on the international market renders the Inalum output noncompetitive.

Primary industries that process aluminum ingots will prefer to import supplies of this commodity at a price that is far lower than the production price of PT Inalum. The spot market price of \$1,050 per ton, for example, can be compared to PT Inalum's price of \$1,500 per ton.

Because of these latter developments, if one-third of the 225,000 tons produced, that is 75,000 tons, cannot be marketed domestically, then the entire output must be exported to Japan. However, in the midst of the present worldwide recession, it is not certain if Japan is disposed to import the total output of Indonesian aluminum.

To remedy the present situation, the easiest solution is to impose import prohibitions on foreign aluminum, thereby compelling domestic industries to use the output from PT Inalum. However, the result is that the higher the cost of the raw materials, the higher the price of finished goods manufactured domestically will be, and the market for items made of aluminum will decline. Before long, smuggling will be rampant. Because of these consequences, the prohibition on imports of aluminum ingots and the compulsory use of the aluminum output from PT Inalum possibly will not be implemented.

The requirements of domestic industries using aluminum at present is estimated at about 63,000 tons annually. These enterprises consist of the following: the aluminum sheet industry comprising 4 factories with a total capacity of 26,000 tons; the aluminum extrusion industry comprising 6 factories with a total production of 16,500 tons; the aluminum foil (for cigarette packages) industry 4,000 tons; the wire and cable industry 15,000 tons and the aluminum slug industry, 1,600 tons. Of all these various types of enterprises, only the aluminum sheet industry is able to use aluminum ingots directly. The remainder must first process the ingots into billets. However, according to available information, some of the above enterprises have indicated their capability to process ingots into billets.

Although the domestic productive capacity for aluminum is 63,100 tons, internal needs are considerably less and in 1981 amounted to only 44,445 tons. It is estimated that an annual requirement for 75,000 tons will be reached in 1988. However, this will occur only if all aluminum imports are prohibited.

9464

CSO: 4213/17

WORKSHOP ON EMPLOYMENT PROBLEMS HELD, WORKERS WAGES DISCUSSED

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 23 Oct 82 pp 1, 9

[Article: "Approximately 1 Million Workers Receive Basic Wages of 300 Rupiah Daily"]

[Excerpts] About 30 percent of the members of FBSI [All-Indonesia Workers' Federation], or 1 million workers, employed in both the traditional and modern sectors, earn less than 10,000 rupiah a month or 300 rupiah a day. These are basic wages which do not take into consideration supplementary social allowances.

This was the data obtained by KOMPAS in the course of a "Workshop on Problems of Employment" in Jakarta on Friday.

In East and Central Java, there are still many workers who receive even lower wages, perhaps only 5,000 rupiah a month. For this reason, the minister of manpower and transportation together with the regional governments in Java, passed an ordinance establishing a minimum wage of 675 rupiah a day for the area.

Even in Jakarta, workers employed in the textile, food and drink industries are encountered who earn only 250 rupiah a day, without any subsistence, transportation or other supplementary allowances. This means that their wages and benefits are lower than those earned by household servants in the capital and are insufficient to meet their minimum physical needs.

In a workshop that lasted 3 days beginning Tuesday, the view was expressed that the minimum wage law promulgated by the minister of manpower and transportation and the regional governments had been transformed by many factories and enterprises into a "maximum wage law." This means that workers who are earning less than the minimum wage are brought up to the mandatory level prescribed by law. However, workers earning more than the minimum wage receive no further raises although their seniority, discipline and productivity increase steadily.

Other violations of the wage law occur in the manipulation of working hours and overtime. Many firms compel their employees to work in excess of 7 hours a day or 40 hours a week without paying them overtime as prescribed by government regulations.

The workshop expressed the view that wages were the only source of income and livelihood for workers and their families. For this reason, in the forthcoming Fourth 5-Year Plan an effort should be made to insure that workers' wages permit them to support their families at a level that is just, appropriate and humane. This can only be achieved by the passage of binding legislation. Workers also should be guaranteed workmen's compensation, entitling them to draw full wages for illnesses up to 1 year in duration in accordance with Government Code No 12 of 1964.

The workshop pressed the government to improve working conditions by developing a strategic program to raise the standard of living for people of the lowest economic strata who comprise the majority of the population.

If the income of the lowest segment of the population rises, it will be followed by a change in consumption patterns. Consumption and demands for consumer goods will increase. This in turn will lend impetus to production and expand job opportunities which will be filled by a work force in quest of employment.

The recommendations of the workshop, which was organized by the research and development department of the All-Indonesia Workers' Federation and the International Conference of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU), will be submitted to the government to be incorporated into the forthcoming outlines of state policy.

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CSO: 4213/17

KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

THAI INTRUSIONS--Phnom Penh, 10 Jan (SPK)--From 24 December-6 January, 127 ground shellings from Thailand were reported against Kampuchean territory, particularly in Koh Kong, Pursat, Battambang, Siem Reap and Preah Vihear Provinces. During the period Thai armed boats were reported to intrude in PRK territorial waters 140 times between 7 and 20 nautical miles from Kaoh Kong and Kaoh Tang. Thai C-47, L-19 and OV-10 planes carried out 14 reconnaissance operations above Kon Kak, Ampil, Phnum Malai, Poipet and Koh Kong between 2 and 3 km from the border. On 17 December, at about 1800, a Thai L-19 plane fired 20-mm shells and rockets at Ph'aong, 20 km northeast of Samraong which is 15 km from the border. Kampuchean territory came under 127 Thai artillery barrages, particularly Koh Kong, Pursat, Battambang, Siem Reap and Preah Vihear Provinces. On 18, 24 and 31 December and on 2 and 3 January, Pol Pot and Sereika elements infiltrated Kampuchean territory under the cover of 105-mm cannon and 100-mm mortar fire from Thailand. They burned down 129 houses in Yeang Dangkum and took Kampuchean civilians to Thailand. Kampuchean combatants intercepted the attackers and put some 60 of them out of action. [Text] [BK101045 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0435 GMT 10 Jan 83]

THAI DELEGATION--Phnom Penh, 20 Jan (SPK)--The delegation of the Thai people led by Siphappanon Wichitworasan, deputy at the Legislative Assembly, left Phnom Penh this morning at the end of its 4-day visit to Kampuchea. The delegation was seen off by Khieu Kanharith, deputy secretary general of the KUFNCD National Council and deputy at the National Assembly. The presence of Khamphan Virachit, Lao ambassador to Kampuchea, was also noted. A representative of the Foreign Ministry was also present. During its stay, the Thai delegation had a meeting with Hun Sen, minister of foreign affairs, and attended a meeting of the Chams (Muslim Khmer) against the "tripartite government of Democratic Kampuchean." The delegation visited the extermination center-museum Tuol Sleng, mass graves at Cheung Ek, orphanage No 1, the former Royal Palace, the National Museum and other places. [Text] [BK210542 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1454 GMT 20 Jan 83]

NICARAGUAN GREETING--Phnom Penh, 18 Jan (SPK)--On the occasion of the Fourth National Day (7 January), Daniel Ortega Saavedra, president of the Reconstruction Government of Nicaragua, sent his "most sincere congratulations" to Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State. In his message, Daniel Ortega Saavedra said: The governments of Nicaragua and PRK will continue their firm solidarity in the struggle for peace

and independence and, as loyal defenders of the principles of nonalignment, will always be firm against imperialism. On the same occasion, Miguel d'Escoto Brockman, Nicaraguan minister of foreign affairs, also sent greetings to his Kampuchean counterpart, Hun Sen. [Text] [BK180733 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0430 GMT 18 Jan 83]

SEYCHELLES, MALAGASY GREETINGS--Phnom Penh, 20 Jan (SPK)--On the occasion of the Fourth National Day (7 January), France Albert Rene, president of the Republic of Seychelles, sent "his warm greetings" to Heng Samrin, chairman of the Council of State. In a message, France Albert Rene said: "We want to take this happy opportunity to reaffirm militant solidarity of the Seychelles' people toward the fraternal Kampuchean people in our common struggle against the imperialist and reactionary forces and in the reconstruction efforts that you display in your country." Didier Ratsiraka, president of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, sent a message to Heng Samrin in which he expressed "his warmest greetings" and his "best wishes of happiness and prosperity for chairman Heng Samrin and the Kampuchean people." [Text] [BK200947 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0405 GMT 20 Jan 83]

HUNGARIAN GREETINGS--Comrade Antal Apro, president of the Hungarian National Assembly, has sent a congratulatory message to Comrade Chea Sim, chairman of the PRK National Assembly, on the occasion of the fourth anniversary of Kampuchea's 7 January Independence Day. The message says, among other things: In my own name, I extend most cordial congratulations and best wishes to you and the PRK National Assembly. I am pleased to see that the fraternal relations between our two countries and peoples have further strengthened and developed in the interest of the Hungarian and Kampuchean peoples and of the great cause of peace and socialism. [Text] [BK181215 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 18 Jan 83]

NICARAGUAN GREETINGS--On the occasion of the fourth anniversary of the 7 January Independence Day, Comrade Miguel d'Escoto Brockman, Nicaraguan minister of foreign affairs, sent a greetings message to Comrade Hun Sen, PRK minister of foreign affairs. The message said, among other things: On behalf of the Nicaraguan People's National Reconstruction Government and in my own name, I extend most sincere, fraternal salutations to you and the fraternal Kampuchean people. [Text] [BK280801 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 19 Jan 83]

CSO: 4212/19

SRV-AIDED ARMY REPAIR, BICYCLE PRODUCTION PLANT REPORT

Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 23 Dec 82 p 2

[Article: "Laos-Vietnam Friendship Plant"]

[Text] The Laos-Vietnam Army Friendship repair plant is under the General Technical Department. It is a fairly large army repair plant consisting of seven main sections: inventory, logistics, blazing, machinery, se sat [translation unknown], repairing, and planning. Generally speaking, the plant is able to repair disabled and broken down cars and different vehicles. Besides this work, with the cooperation of the Vietnamese experts plus the creative ideas of the Lao workers, the plant also assembles and produces some spare parts for bicycles. It started producing bicycles in January 1981. It has now been almost 2 years. The bicycle production is in cooperation between Laos and Vietnam. At first, the plant produced small bicycles (mini-bicycles). Some mini-bicycle parts were produced in this plant, e.g., motors, middle shaft, front shaft, rear shaft, bicycle frame, etc. However, the plant obtained some parts through Vietnamese assistance, e.g., wheels, pedals, fenders, tires, and inner tubes.

The mini-bicycles are durable and of good quality. The spare parts are made of good quality steel to a guaranteed standard with beautiful designing techniques, and are very well painted.

Not long ago, Vietnamese technical representatives came to visit the plant. They confirmed that the spare parts were good, and have good quality. They also brought parts back with them to study the coating and color spraying techniques. Since the day the production started up to now the plant has produced a total of 186 mini-bicycles, 10 big bicycles, and a great deal of spare parts which on the average will be 1,500 to 2,000 kinds per month. If we break the bicycle spare parts down into groups, e.g., front shaft, middle shaft, rear shaft, [koum bon phot], each group has many different small parts, e.g., front shaft and rear shaft which have connecting tubes to the left and right pedals, front and rear shafts, secondary rings and oil seals.

Bicycles from the Laos-Vietnam friendship plant were exhibited at the That Louang festival this year. They seemed to be popular with the people. They showed the Lao workers' workmanship and creativity, and also the spirit of friendship and cooperation between the Lao and Vietnamese workers. The solidarity of the two nations Laos and Vietnam has become a success in the actual work.

DOMESTIC, FOREIGN TRADE SUMMARIZED

Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 17 Dec 82 p 2

[Article by Litthi Sisouvong: "The 1982 Trade Situation"]

[Excerpts] In 1982 our party opened the Third Party Congress for the entire party and established the important political direction for the new revolutionary period in order to lead the nation to socialism. Meanwhile, this is also the second year of the first 5 Year Plan. It is notable that many of our nation's [trade] are making progress.

In order to carry out the plan to circulate the goods throughout the population base, first of all the trade authorities who firmly cooperate with the local administrative authorities should attentively continue and organize the trade network in remote areas far from the districts, especially in mountainous areas and areas of minority tribesmen. There are many small stores in cantons, villages, and agricultural co-ops.

As for goods circulation, in some areas and localities they organized collective trade and private sector associations that take the goods from state stores to exchange them in the villages that have no stores and where there are no roads, charging prices that allow a reasonable profit approved by the government. Moreover, in 1982 the people in some places were faced with scarcity because of the threat of natural disaster of drought and flooding. The trade cadres performed their duty in raising their standard of living by buying goods from other places to effectively [help] those who faced scarcity. Because of good organization, the trade and goods circulation succeeded by as much as 95.3 percent of the year's plan.

For the figures for the nine months from January to September this year, state stores and collective stores nationwide put out goods for sale in their stores, as follows: over 8 million meters of fabric, over 2,000 tons of sugar, 6,000 tons of salt, 450 tons of paper and notebooks, 660 tons of soap and laundry soap, 2,000 tons of kerosene, and other miscellaneous items.

Along with the distribution of goods each store also purchased a great deal of forest products from the people. For example, in 1982 they purchased over 1,000 tons of corn, 463 tons of rice bran and powdered rice to supply the state food concentrate factory, and 8,300 tons of fresh meat. Moreover, there are coffee beans, animal skins, animal bones, sticlac and benzoin, rattan wood, and many other items.

The LPDR government is extensively involved with foreign trade, such as with fraternal socialist countries. This helped to gradually better our nation's trade balance. In 1982 our exports were lumber, coffee, rattan, gypsum, tobacco, and electricity. Moreover, there were forest products that were purchased from the multi ethnic people. These helped to steadily increase the government's capital for use in national construction and development. For example, after exporting the goods, our government purchased different necessary import goods such as consumer products, e.g., milk, sugar, cotton, fabric, paper, pencils, and other goods. Most of our imports are construction materials, raw materials to supply factories, spare parts, vehicles, construction equipment, and transportation equipment. Thus, this helps to change the new face in many aspects of base construction in the economy and in socio-cultural aspects in our country.

Although our achievement in trade has not fully met the plan, it is a solid foundation for carrying it out in succeeding years, that was set in the government 5 Year Plan and by the resolutions of the LPRP Third Party Congress, to become reality.

9884

CSO: 4206/37

BRIEFS

XIENG KHOUANG RECRUITMENT--Acknowledging the party and government policy in national security and construction in mid-1982, the youth of all races of the entire Pek District, Xieng Khouang Province, all voluntarily served in duty to the nation. Especially last November, almost 200 youth of this district voluntarily served in the ranks of the national defense and public security forces, in many offices and organizations based on their individual ability. These youth are progressive with solid qualities and beliefs. Each has passed training from the actual production base to take part in the socialist transformation and construction to make it wealthy and strong. [Text] [Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 17 Dec 82 p 1, 4] 9884

HUNGARIAN BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION AID--In order to carry out the agreement between the LPDR and the Hungarian People's Republic for the Sesangsoi bridge construction in Savannakhet Province, starting on 1 January until last November Lao cadres and workers along with Hungarian experts have struggled and emulated each other to work with love and cooperation in order to successfully construct the bridge as planned. The actual result they achieved at that time was to successfully install equipment inside the office by 100 percent, to dig 826 cubic meters of the new bridge construction site and fill the site as expected, to pour concrete for the support foundation, and other sites for the construction operation. They succeeded 100 percent in taking down the old 103 meter-long steel bridge; [they had] 45 percent success in extending the new bridge's crossbeams; and transported 2,421 tons of construction materials and equipment, e.g., steel, cement, lumber, etc. Meanwhile, they repaired a number of machines and other vehicles. Now the workers are determinedly and unyieldingly continuing the work in order to take part in implementing the resolutions of the Third Party Congress to become reality. [Text] [Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 17 Dec 82 p 1] 9884

LIVESTOCK INCREASE--Along with the expansion of other aspects last year the animal husbandry of the people nationwide was pressed forward, promoted, and expanded widely and rather effectively. Compared with 1980, in 1982 there were 897,100 buffalo, a 5.15 percent increase; 472,700 oxen, a 5.77 percent increase; 56,100 sheep and goats, a 15.43 percent increase; 1,223,000 pigs, a 17.07 percent increase; and 5,813,100 poultry, a 27.41 percent increase. In order to respond to the expansion of animal husbandry the food concentrate production this year was as much as 6,000 tons, which is half again more than last year's. Medicine production for animal treatment amounted to as many as one million doses and is also half again more than last year's. Therefore, sickness and

death caused by epidemic diseases were decreased in different kinds of animals. This is one condition to press forward to steadily and unfailing expand animal husbandry. [Text] [Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 17 Dec 82 p 1] 9884

MATERIALS - TECHNICS MINISTRY ACTIVITIES--On the afternoon of 20 December the Materials - Technics Ministry held a ceremony to summarize the 1982 achievements, to award medals and commendation for those who performed outstanding work in the 5-year period of transformation and construction of the nation and who served in the Third Party Congress with an active and joyous atmosphere. The Minister told us that in 1982 cadres and workers of each work section under the ministry have struggled and put all of their energy and intellect into effectively carrying out many projects, for example, making 6,678 of all kinds of vehicle registrations and 5,021 of all kinds of car plates. They succeeded in repairing 216 vehicles, 159 refrigerators, air conditioners, fans, worn down spare parts. Fuel oil control is becoming gradually better in all of the work that is consistent with the policy line of the ownership of the socialist transformation and construction. Meanwhile, other work also goes on conveniently, normally, and fairly promptly. [Excerpt] [Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 23 Dec 82 pp 1, 4] 9884

CSO: 4206/37

THAILAND

JUSTICE MINISTER EXPRESSES CONCERNS OVER CHANGES IN ANTICOMMUNIST LAW

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 14 Dec 82 pp 1, 12

[Text] In an interview with SIAM RAT at the Ministry of Justice yesterday afternoon on the military's proposed revision of the anticommunist law into a national security law, which can be well used to maintain law and order in the country, Justice Minister Marut Bunnag said even in the case where Thailand does not have any anticommunist activities law at all, a communist guerrilla or any person who has committed an act deemed hostile to the country or to the government can be considered as having violated criminal law where it is related to the security of the kingdom, and the punishment for such an act is already severe.

The minister of justice went on to say that if such an act is committed, the person who perpetrated the act can be prosecuted only through the normal process. That is to say, if a person is arrested and charged with a criminal act, the police officer making the arrest can detain the accused for only 7 days. If the investigation is not completed within the 7 days, the police officer can request a subpoena from the court in order to detain the accused seven more times, each time for 12 days, which is a total of 91 days. As for the anticommunist activities law, it has been in effect since 1952; and it contains, in a special section, an interpretation as to what is considered a communist activity. And in the beginning after the law went into effect, the procedure for detaining a person accused of engaging in what was considered to be a communist activity stipulated that the accused could not be detained for more than 91 days, which was a procedure similar to that contained in the criminal law. In any case, the anticommunist activities law has continued to be revised.

Mr Marut expressed his view that if a law is to be enacted to replace the anticommunist activities law for the purpose of maintaining national security, then everyone involved in this area must be brought together to study the matter very carefully. If there is to be a law for this purpose, there must be a very careful consideration and the basic rights of the citizens must be taken into account. There must be extreme caution, and there must be consideration of all minute details.

The minister of justice added that when we contemplate abolishing the anticommunist activities law and turn to the implementation of a law for national security instead, " such a law is more frightening than the

anticommunist activities law that we are using today. This is because a national security law will have a much broader interpretation than the anti-communist activities law. The latter will punish only those who commit an act that is considered to be a communist activity as interpreted in the special section of the law. But if a national security law is to be enacted to prevent what the government considers to be an act against the national security, then we should take great care in doing so, and strictly adhere to the legal principle."

12282

CSO: 4207/48

THAILAND

JUSTICE MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON APPLICATION OF ANTICOMMUNIST LAW

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 20 Dec 82 p 3

[Interview with Mr Marut Bunnak, the Minister of Justice, by Wachira Saloeiyakanon:
"On Revising the Anti-Communist Activities Act of 1952; date and place not specified]

[Text] [Question] With regard to the Anti-Communist Activities Act and the criminal laws, what is the difference between them in punishing suspects?

[Answer] Even if we did not have an anti-communist activities act, the communist terrorists, or those who act like enemies of the country or government, would still be considered to be in violation of the type-1 criminal laws, which concern violations against national security. The penalties for those who commit such crimes are already very harsh. But in trying such cases, things must be handled according to the normal ways. That is, if a person who has violated the law is arrested, the police officials who make the arrest can detain the suspect for only 7 days. But if the investigation has not been completed, the officials can ask the court for permission to detain the suspect a total of seven times, with the length of detention being 12 days per time. Thus, the suspect can be detained a total of about 91 days.

[Question] Concerning the Anti-Communist Activities Act of 1952, what are the details of this?

[Answer] This act was promulgated and put into effect in 1952. It analyzes and defines what is meant by communist activities. However, both communists and those who engage in movements aimed at occupying an area are considered to have violated the criminal laws concerning national security. Such people are considered to be rebels. In this act, there is an article concerning the detention of people who violate this law. When this act was first promulgated, it was possible to detain a suspect for up to 91 days only. Later on, this act was revised several times. In the latest revision, the scope of the charges has been broadened. But we cannot get away from the criminal laws. But what is even more special than this is that a person who is arrested on charges of having engaged in communist activities can be detained by the arresting officials for up to 1 month. And if the investigation has not been completed, the matter can be submitted to the director-general of the Police Department,

who has the authority to detain the suspect for another 180 days. If after this time the investigation has still not been completed, permission to detain the suspect must be obtained from the courts, which can order him detained for three periods of 91 days each or a total of 273 days. Thus, a suspect can be detained for a total of approximately 480 days, or 1 year and 115 days. If there is then no evidence against him, he must be released. In such a case, we apparently arrested an innocent person and greatly inconvenienced him. This is very unfortunate. But if the person is actually guilty, there is no harm in this.

[Question] Concerning those who have the authority to make arrests, to whom has this act entrusted such authority?

[Answer] Those who have the authority to arrest people who have violated this law do not consist of the police only. Soldiers and civilians whose duties directly concern this law have the authority to arrest people charged with engaging in communist activities. Thus, the authority of the officials to make arrests in accord with this law is very broad. For example, in a case involving an armed clash with officials, if it is an ordinary case, we must perform an autopsy. If it is a special case involving a killing, we feel the killing to be justified on the part of the officials.

Those officials who kill a person in such special cases are considered to have done so legally in the line of duty. But if the clash is between officials and communist terrorists and if the clash takes place in an infiltrated area that is under the influence of the communists, high-ranking officials or officers have the authority to prevent an autopsy from being performed. The actions taken by the officials there are considered to be legal. We must have confidence in these high-ranking officials and trust them to perform their duties properly. In addition to this, there are many other matters contained in this law.

[Question] What is your view on the matter of repealing this act? Do you think it should be repealed?

[Answer] As for this, in 1974, some politicians expressed the view that even if we repealed this law and did not have an anti-communist law, we would still have criminal laws that could be used in such cases. But the military at that time felt that it was still necessary to have this law, that it was to our benefit to continue using it and that it should not be repealed. Thus, this law has constantly been revised in order to fit the situation. My personal view is that, since we cannot yet repeal this law, we should make revisions concerning the amount of time that a suspect can be detained on such charges. A person can now be detained for up to 480 days. This should be reduced to 91 days, which is the amount of time that a suspect can be detained under the ordinary criminal laws, or perhaps slightly longer. But a person should not be detained too long because individual liberties are important. If an innocent person is detained for a long period, we are violating his individual liberties. But if the person is actually guilty, it doesn't matter if he is detained for a long time.

[Question] The military has proposed that the anti-communist activities law be changed so that it has the form of a national security law. They have said that it will then be possible to maintain peace and order in the country and that this would be in accord with today's changing social situation. Do you think that the law will be changed and if so in what way?

[Answer] Concerning the idea of repealing the anti-communist law as such and instead using it as a type of national security law, this is more frightening than the present use of this anti-communist law. This is because a law in the form of a national security law will have a much broader scope than the anti-communist law. The anti-communist law punishes only those who engaged in communist activities as defined and specified in the law. If the government considers such activities to be violations involving security and promulgates a security law, we should do things very carefully and hold to the principle of legal justice. All those concerned must study and consider things carefully. And once such a law is promulgated, the basic rights of the people must be considered. We must be very careful about this and consider matters very carefully.

[Question] At present, are the courts using this law to try people suspected of committing this crime?

[Answer] This depends on the military courts. The military courts are using it to try cases because, at present, we have not lifted martial law. The military courts try three types of cases: violations involving communist activities, violations concerning national security and violations concerning the well-being of the people. These types of cases are all tried in a military court.

[Question] How many suspects are presently being detained on charges of having engaged in communist activities?

[Answer] I do not have any figures on this. You will have to go ask military officials about this. They should have these figures.

11943

CSO: 4207/56

THAILAND

EDITORIAL CITES NEED FOR CHANGES IN ANTICOMMUNIST LAW

Bangkok PATINYA in Thai 27 Dec 82 pp 1, 2

[Editorial: "If Criminal Laws Are Used to Suppress the Communists, What Will Happen?"]

[Text] People have been calling for the repeal of the Communist Activities Act for a long time. During the period in which the communist party was carrying on violent operations, people claimed that this act could not solve the communist problem -- or that the greater the suppression the greater the problem. And now people are again calling for the repeal of this act, claiming that the CPT has been defeated and that it is no longer necessary to have a communist activities act.

Concerning repealing the communist activities act, there are two lines of thought on this. The first is to completely do away with this act without implementing any other law to ensure security. If anything harmful to national security occurs, the existing criminal laws, which are sufficiently strong already, can be used to handle the case. The other line of thought calls for repealing the communist activities act too. But there must be a law that will ensure national security and that will apply to everyone and not just to the communists alone.

Before we repeal the communist activities act, we must first determine whether those who engage in communist activities are ruthless terrorists or simply people whose political views differ from those of the government. And it can be seen that most of the communist terrorists fall into this latter category. Using the criminal laws to deal with these people will solve the problem as far as the law is concerned. But this will not reduce the number of communists. Rather, it will turn people into permanent communists or increase the number of communists. This is because in solving the communist problem, various things must be corrected on various fronts, including the political, economic, social, legal, psychological, military and even the international political fronts. There must be great flexibility. Thus, if just rigid legal measures are used, it will not be possible to solve the communist problem. However, a law must be promulgated so that those who are responsible for solving the communist

problem can use their powers easily in accord with the law. At the same time, this will prevent officials from overstepping the bounds of their authority.

The following is one example of the inconvenience caused by having to use criminal laws in solving the communist problem. Officials have the power to detain a suspect up to 7 days or up to 91 days if they have permission from the courts. But concerning those suspected of communist activities who are not ruthless terrorists, officials must talk with them and try to change their way of thinking. When these people understand things, they must be set free. But how long it takes to generate correct understanding is uncertain. Thus, if the time that they can be held is rigidly fixed in accord with the criminal laws, this will obstruct the work of the officials. Also, if things are done in accord with the criminal laws, suspects must be tried before a court, and if the evidence is sufficient, they must be punished for insurrection, which is a serious crime. This will only serve to produce more communists.

Thus, the real problem is not the communist activities act but rather those who do not act in accord with the intentions of the act in the ideological struggle with the communists. They use the power entrusted to them by the act to profit personally. Or they act arbitrarily and arrest people without investigating things carefully. Or they confine suspects without making an effort to change the views of these people. Also, the structure of our political, economic and social system is just the way the communists say it is. These things have made it impossible for the government to win the hearts and minds of those who joined the communists.

Concerning the problem of people joining the communists, besides the fact that this stems from the propaganda spread by the communists, this also stems from other pressures or from the actions of other groups. For example, people join the communists because of economic exploitation by certain merchants and capitalists, because of political inequality [caused by] the dictatorial groups and because of the unfairness of some government officials. All these groups play a part in creating communists and destroying the security of the nation.

Even though there are presently such laws among the criminal laws, they are not strong enough or sufficiently comprehensive to prevent the communists from destroying the security of the nation. Thus, there must be a law that will ensure national security and prevent security from being destroyed by leftist and rightist dictators, by those who want to destroy the nation's economic system and by those who want to destroy the institutions that serve to unite the people of the country. A law must be promulgated that will enable us to prosecute all these people and not just the communists.

If such a law is promulgated, there will be nothing terrifying about this law for those who have done nothing to harm national security. And since people use their power to persecute innocent people, it is proper for those who know the law and for the representatives of the people to plug up the loopholes by clearly stipulating the powers and duties of those who are responsible. In this way, it will be possible to correct the errors. Just because the

communist activities act has created certain problems, it is not necessary to repeal the entire act that ensures national security and leave things up to the criminal laws. This would create even more problems.

(Note: Those who are interested in the repeal of the communist act can read about PATINYA's position on this act in the 18 October 1982 issue of PATINYA, issue 188.)

11943

CSO: 4207/53

COLUMNIST URGES ABOLITION OF ANTICOMMUNIST ACTIVITIES LAW

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 10 Dec 82 p 6

[Column: "For Fun or For Real of an Old Soldier"]

[Text] There has been talk about the anticommunist law which is in force now. This law is known in full as the Anticommunist Activities Law, which has been in effect for a long time. As far as I can recall there seems to have been an anticommunist law on and off since 1932. And then this one was enforced and has continued to be in effect ever since. It can be said that Thailand began to get acquainted with the communists 50 years ago, and once she got to know them, she did not like them and considered them her enemies.

Yes, the enemies of the whole nation. That's why the anticommunist law was issued.

To discourage the Thai people from admiring or being pro-communist, or things of that sort. Yes, it's well understood.

We still have this anticommunist law today; only it is not enforced.

It is like an old shirt or an old pair of pants that we keep in a drawer, and we never pull them out for use.

They are not exchanged for plastic plates or eggs, so they just lie in there. So what?

Comments about the anticommunist law from those who are involved in the anti-communist activities vary: Some say that the anticommunist law has outlived its usefulness and should be abolished outright; while others are of the view that we should continue to have this anticommunist law because the communist are just like all other living things. Now they may be exhausted and will stay dormant for a time; but they can regain their energy and start making noise any time.

The communists are a threat to the (Thai) nation, religion and monarchy; there ought to be a law to prevent them.

This above argument is interesting.

Another view is that the anticommunist law must continue to be used; but it must be amended. This is because the situation of the world has changed. Communism and democracy have become friends. There ought to be an amendment to this law so that it is in line with the existing political, diplomatic, and trade conditions.

This view is also interesting.

In fact, those who entertain the view that the anticommunist law is not necessary for Thailand and the Thai people may be of the opinion that there are no communists, including those in the cities, known as the underground communists, in Thailand.

This is because the communists have been attacked both by the government and by the "rightists attacking the leftists" movement so that the communists, both above ground and underground, have perished from the land.

As for those communists who operate in the jungles, recently they marched out of the jungles in great numbers, surrendered their arms to the government, and have sloughed off their communist skin and cleansed themselves of the communist smell.

The Anticommunist Activities Law is therefore not necessary. When there are no communists in Thailand, then what do you need the anticommunist law for?

There is yet another view, which is that Thailand and the communist countries--both small and big--have become friends and held hands, and no longer pose a threat to one another. Why prevent communists, which would only cause a problem?

Another group, on the other hand, is of the view that the old Anticommunist Activities Law should be abolished and a new one legislated. That is, don't use the term "communist" in the new law because it will irritate communist countries which are friendly to Thailand.

Of these three views on the anticommunist law, I agree most with the last one. This is the practice we should take, since it is the middle road, a gentle way that would not hurt anyone. To use a political parlance, this is what is known as meeting each other half way.

But to repeal the anticommunist law altogether would seem rather ugly and rather frightening for Thailand.

Because the Thais, even though they are fast sleepers, can be awakened very easily.

The anticommunist law has broad interpretation. Anyone who eats with a communist, even if he eats only one plate of rice, drinks only one glass of whiskey--and not even sleeping at that communist's place--could be arrested by the police on charges of engaging in a communist activity.

Anyone who has been to a communist country will be followed by the police.

If I were to write this in simple terms, as far as the anticommunist law is concerned, if you moved a bit, talked a bit, gestured a bit, you'd better be careful to make all that democratic, or else you'd be arrested for violating the anticommunist law.

Many of my friends were arrested and kept in detention just for fun, as if they were ducks and chickens. After they had gotten fat, they were released because they could not be found guilty. But they were kept in detention a long time before the police found out that my friends were not guilty.

What is worse is that the anticommunist law that is in place now is an instrument which people of many levels use to make a living. Both in good and bad ways.

Yes, there are many people who make a living by using this law--some in high levels, some receive money from foreign countries.

For example, there is a lot of money from America to help in anticommunist activities. Once these people receive that financial assistance they don't do anything, they simply sit and scold the communists for America to hear--and they would get a lot of money. You could do the Thai folk drama of folk group argumentative singing or "pleng choi" against the communists and you would get money. You might even get a gold trophy.

This is what you call using the anticommunist law to make an honest living.

But there are those who use the anticommunist law to make a living in a dishonest way, namely, the police often played a game of just making an accusation and pretended to arrest a person and charged him with being a communist. They chose to arrest people with money; and they extorted money from them for their own personal expenses. The method the police used is simple. They just put a communist book in your drawer, and then when they searched your place they would find the book and would take you to the police station.

This kind of thing has really happened.

Not only that. A former prime minister of Thailand realized that he could not run the country in a democratic way, and he wanted to be a dictator, so he just got up and staged a coup d'etat, and then asserted that there were communists infiltrating his government and Parliament.

Yes, this has been done, and successfully, too.

For this reason, I view the anticommunist law, not as a law but as a holy book for some Thais to use as their guidance to make a living--both in an honest and dishonest way.

If the law were to be amended, the term communist would still remain, and would continue to be an irritant in our minds and ears.

It is better to make a new law to replace it.

That is, make a law with the provisions that prohibit the Thai people from being a threat to the nation, religion and monarchy, and even democracy.

I think this would be better than anything else.

As for the details of the new law to be used in place of the old anticommunist law, well, they can go ahead and put those details together. I am not a specialist in this field; so I can only wait and listen.

12282

CSO: 4207/48

ASEAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION SEEN AS NOT BENEFITING THAILAND

Bangkok PATINYA in Thai 27 Dec 82 pp 20-22

[Article: "Asean Economic Cooperation, How Much Can We Expect?"]

[Text] The Asean economic cooperation program was launched in 1976. This program stems from the creation of Asean in 1967, with the agreement signed at the Saranrom Palace in Bangkok. In forming Asean, the emphasis was on economic cooperation among member countries, with the main goals being:

1. To accelerate economic growth in order to create a basis for prosperity and well-being in Southeast Asia.
2. To cooperate more effectively in using the benefits obtained from agricultural and industrial cooperation, to expand trade, to [solve] the international trade problems concerning resources and to improve communications services.

Since signing the agreement containing these two points on 8 August 1967, which is now 15 years ago, the five members of Asean have tried to cooperate with each other on the basis of this agreement. But in the initial period, cooperation between the members of Asean was not very good. The countries began to cooperate seriously only in 1976, that is, after the summit conference between the leaders of the countries that was held on Bali in February 1976. During this conference, two documents known as the "Declaration of Asean Unanimity" were signed. These documents stipulated programs for economic cooperation. It was stipulated that Asean would implement various programs. Some of these have now been carried out but others have not. The contents of this declaration include:

1. The members of Asean should cooperate in the production of basic products, particularly food and energy. This is so that whenever there is an emergency, if a country lacks food, it can ask to use the food reserves of another country (Asean's food reserves total 50,000 tons). In 1982, an article concerning the system of allotting oil for use in times of emergency was drafted and included in the agreement. Just like the matter of food reserves, if a country faces an oil crisis or experiences an oil shortage, it can ask for oil from other Asean countries.

2. The Asean countries should cooperate in the field of industry, particularly large-scale industrial projects, and begin holding discussions on the Asian Industrial Project in order to enable Asean to become self-sufficient, or almost self-sufficient. For example, most of the people living in the Asean countries are farmers. At the same time, the yields per rai in the Asean countries are very low because the farmers use little fertilizer. This is because fertilizer is expensive. Thus, we need to have the farmers in the Asean region increase the use of fertilizer by reducing the price of fertilizer. Asean must produce fertilizer within the Asean countries on a large scale in order to reduce the cost of fertilizer. It has been agreed that there will be fertilizer projects in Indonesia and Malaysia. As for the project in Indonesia, the cost of this project will be \$225.8 million. It will start producing fertilizer at the beginning of 1984. It will produce 1,000 tons of ammonia and 1,725 tons of urea per day. The value of the fertilizer project in Malaysia is higher than that in Indonesia, that is, it is valued at \$327 million. It is to start production in 1985 and will produce 1,000 tons of ammonia and 1,500 tons of urea per day.

Thailand has other large-scale projects, that is, the rock salt and soda ash projects, which are valued at \$377.6 million. It will be possible to produce 400,000 tons of soda ash and ammonium chloride per year. At present, the project is in the stage of raising capital. The Philippines chose to produce copper. Singapore does not have any large-scale projects. At first, Singapore wanted to produce diesel engines but no agreement could be reached with Indonesia on the matter of horsepower. Thus, Singapore halted that program.

Cooperation in the industrial field also includes a special 50 percent reduction on customs duties for a period of 5 years calculated from when production gets underway. Besides this, the private sector in Asean is also cooperating in the industrial programs. Asean industrial production has been divided. Taxes on the various vehicle parts, which are produced by the different countries, and on the parts for various goods that are traded have been reduced 50 percent too. In addition, Asean is trying to find a way to divide the production of vehicles. Asean has studied market conditions and found that, in the five Asean countries, where the total population is about 250 million, the market for vehicles is approximately 450,000 vehicles a year. If Asean wants to produce 200,000 vehicles a year, it can do so if it builds large plants like those in Japan and Western Europe.

3. Asean should promote greater trade cooperation among the members of Asean so that the members of Asean can rely on themselves just like the 10 members of the European Economic Community. Eighty percent of the trade of these countries is with member countries; only 20 percent is with countries outside the group. Thus, the EEC does not have to rely on foreign markets at all. This is different from Asean, where only 10-15 percent of the trade is with member countries. This is very low.

4. Asean should cooperate on resources. Since 1976, the members of Asean have cooperated rather well in this sector. Some of the goals have been achieved,

others have not. An example is the cooperation in negotiating with the developed countries concerning rubber and tin.

5. Asean should cooperate in the international economic sector. In the past 3-4 years, Asean has resembled a developing country. The members of Asean have cooperated in the international economic sector and played an important role on the international economic stage. For example, it has negotiated with the developed countries -- which have been termed "north-south negotiations" -- and has negotiated to lower trade taxes and duties throughout the world.

Asean Cooperation, How Much Can We Expect?

Concerning economic cooperation among the Asean countries, in principle and according to the theory of international economics, this would be a very good thing. Because if these five small countries can unite to form a large "country," this will greatly stimulate the markets in these countries, including both the investment market and the trade market. Capital will be attracted and projects will be started and it will be possible to trade goods with each other, which will enable the people in the five countries to receive greater economic benefits. But to date, economic cooperation among the Asean countries has not reached the heights hoped for, even though there have been 14 meetings in order to get the projects started. The things that have kept the Asean countries from reaching the level of cooperation hoped for have been international politics and the mechanism for economic action and cooperation.

However, Asean has five work committees for cooperating in carrying out the work in the five countries. These five committees are known as the five committees. At a conference, each committee was entrusted with a specific task:

Committee 1 is responsible for activities concerning food, timber and fishing.

Committee 2 is responsible for all transportation activities.

Committee 3 is responsible for financial and banking activities.

Committee 4 is responsible for trade and tourism.

Committee 5 is responsible for mining and energy.

For these five countries, each of the five countries is responsible for one of the committees. For example, Thailand is responsible for the financial and banking committee, with the Ministry of Finance serving as host. The host serves as the chairman of the committee and [provides] people to carry out the work of the committee. In this case, Thai officials are used to carry out the financial projects entrusted to them.

Indonesia is the host responsible for food, timber and fishing committee. Malaysia is the host for transportation. Singapore is responsible for tourism and trade. Mining and energy are the responsibility of the Philippines. Every

6 months, the committees hold a conference. The Asean ministers of economics submit projects and discuss whether to give approval.

As for the members of Asean cooperating in order to negotiate with those outside the group, there are no problems and results have been achieved. This is because the five Asean countries have enough strength to negotiate on matters affecting the interests of Asean. But from the standpoint of opportunities to use the benefits gained from cooperation within Asean, there are still difficulties and the benefits cannot be used fully. This is because, in accord with the mechanism for implementing things, each matter must be taken up by officials from a ministry. Trade matters are referred to officials from the Ministry of Commerce for discussion with the committee based in Singapore. As for financial matters, the other countries must send officials for discussions in Bangkok. Concerning such discussions, in free countries, it is extremely difficult to send officials from each country to discuss things and expect them to reach an agreement that will satisfy all sides. This is because each country wants to gain the greatest benefits for itself. If the representative of a country signs an agreement that benefits his country less than the other countries, when he returns home, he will be called stupid. Thus, each member of Asean sends a representative and bargains to gain the greatest benefits possible and take on the fewest responsibilities. All five countries do this, and this is one of the obstacles confronting Asean. Concerning this matter, Dr Chirayu Isarangkun Na Ayuthaya, the deputy minister of industry, said during a recent lecture at AUA that:

"Suppose, for example, that before we started cooperating, each country was at point zero (0), that is, no one had any profits. But after cooperating, Singapore showed a plus 1.5 gain and Thailand had a plus 0.5 gain. Thailand would be at a disadvantage and the people would not accept this. Or suppose we accepted this, thinking that, next time, Thailand would gain plus 1.5 while Singapore would gain only plus 0.5, I think that this would be very difficult. Because what guarantee would we have and how could we be sure that, in international politics, when it was our turn to gain plus 1.5 the country with a gain of 0.5 and the other countries would agree? Thus, in cooperating, things will stay around the zero point, or the initial point. This is what I have observed these past 7 years."

Thus, it can be seen that economic cooperation among the Asean countries has not achieved very much. This can be seen from the fact that, recently, the Ministry of Industry had to postpone the soda ash project since Singapore is unwilling to purchase soda ash from Thailand, claiming that its market is a free market and that it cannot stipulate quantities to be purchased. Besides this, the project in the Philippines involving the smelting of iron ore from Asean has encountered the same problem with Singapore as has Thailand. Concerning this, Asean should implement measures that will exert pressure for real cooperation. As for dividing the profits so that economic cooperation hits the targets, this can be done by having each country look toward the common interests and having each one invest the same amount. And when a factory is built in a particular country, which means that that country will benefit by hiring workers and so on, it should have to invest a greater amount of capital so that things are fair for the other members of Asean.

HAN SPEAKS ON HOPES FOR DEMOCRACY

BK230946 Bangkok Domestic Television Service in Thai 1400 GMT 22 Jan 83

[Program of the Supreme Command Information Office: Interview with commander of the 4th Army Region and director of the Communist Prevention Command, 4th Region, Lt Gen Han Linanon on the "Tai Rom Yen Pacification Program,"--recorded, date not given]

[Excerpt] [Question] Time is running out. It is a pity because we are dealing with an interesting subject. Before we finish, would you like to add something for the listeners at home.

[Answer] It seems that everyone is talking about the elections now. The people are interested. There has also been a move to convene parliament to amend the constitution. Personally speaking, I support whatever activities promote full democracy. It is written in policy 66/2523 that it is our duty to support the democratic movement and promote full democracy. I therefore support any activities that contribute to our achievement of full democracy. However, if I deem that activities to be taken would further squash the currently imperfect democracy, that I would not support them. The people in the country all understand the problems and they also wish to achieve full democracy as soon as possible. I have always taken this stand and adopted this goal throughout my long struggle--we must try by all means to achieve full democracy based on implementation of policy 66/2523. We have lost many friends and relatives, our brave soldiers, killed in the defense of the country. The number of those cremated at the royal-sponsored ceremony reaches 500 to 600 every year. I have watched it every year. Why were those people killed? They were killed fighting another faction of the Thai people who fled to the jungle. We lost our brave soldiers, policemen, officials and volunteers killed in this manner. What was it that pushed that faction of the Thai people to flee into the jungle and take up arms against the authorities. This is the most important problem for us. Those responsible for pushing a number of Thais into the jungle are those wielding dictatorial power and evil influence. As soon as we eliminate dictatorship, we will then be able to solve the problem of our fellow countrymen fleeing into the jungle. That will completely end the current war. What we hope to see will be achieved only through full democracy. Only democracy can end this war. Based on this concept, I have written a song called "The Day We Are Waiting For," that is, the day when we will see full democracy. That day there will be no more killing between the Thai. I hope that my song will make those in the jungle understand our purpose, and that they will come out and join the government in the effort to develop our country. If they persist in the struggle, they should adopt a peaceful means of struggle based on policy 66/2523. Now I will sing the song for you.

THAILAND

EDITORIAL: TREATMENT OF ACTIVISTS AT VARIANCE WITH STATED RTG GOALS

Bangkok SIAM MAI in Thai 24 Dec 82 p 3

[Editorial: "An Image That Is At Variance With the Policy"]

[Text] Since the promulgation of Order 66/1980 of the Prime Minister, of which an important policy is to "struggle in order to suppress the communists quickly by launching a continuous political offensive," and Order 65/1982 of the Prime Minister, whose main policy is to "destroy all forms of dictatorship and create a democratic society with the king at the head using democracy as the way," on one hand, the target of both policies has been to eliminate injustice in society at all levels, that is, from the local to the national level, to eliminate oppression, to make things safe for the lives and property of the people, to develop democracy by creating a feeling that sovereignty belongs to the masses, to destroy dictatorship and to form a path for perfecting the freedom of individuals. Concerning this, it can be said that this has generated much confidence among the people concerning their ability to carry on their lives in a normal way. Also, this has generated confidence in the value of democracy. This has given people in society hope of being able to participate in building up our country.

Concerning the phenomenon of great numbers of students, politicians and people who had gone to join the CPT returning to "participate in developing the nation," even though it can be said that this is due in part to the "self-defeat" of the CPT, it is difficult to deny that the implementation of these two policies at a time that was in accord with the situation has been very successful.

As for the other side of the implementation of policies 66/1980 and 65/1982, there is still doubt about how these two policies will actually be implemented. Such doubts have arisen in light of the things that have occurred since the promulgation of these two policies. For example, concerning the surrender of communist terrorists, even though Policy 66/1980 states that those who surrender or are captured must be treated like friends and provided help so that they can start a new life in society, some high-ranking government officials are still very suspicious. Other events include the recent assassination of Mr Monchai, a student leader from Ramkhamhaeng University who was a leader in the opposition to the bus fare increase, while he was visiting his home in Prachuapkhirikhan Province; the trial of Mr Adun Bunruong, a student from

Chiang Mai Technical College, before a military court on 10 January 1983 on charges of engaging in communist activities; and the case of Mr Chamnan Photchana, the governor of Khon Kaen Province, mobilizing the Village Scouts, Volunteer Defense Corps and villagers and getting them to abandon their work and go oppose the students at Khon Kaen University who had gathered to demand democracy in the appointment of a rector. These things all provide an image that is at variance with the policies that the government has announced.

How can there be justice in society, how can the lives and property of the people in society be safe and how can there be freedom and democracy -- which are all things that the government expressed a strong intention of bringing about in Thai society when it promulgated Office of the Prime Minister orders 66/1980 and 65/1982 -- as long as the state apparatus does not respond to these policies and does not carry out things seriously and fairly?

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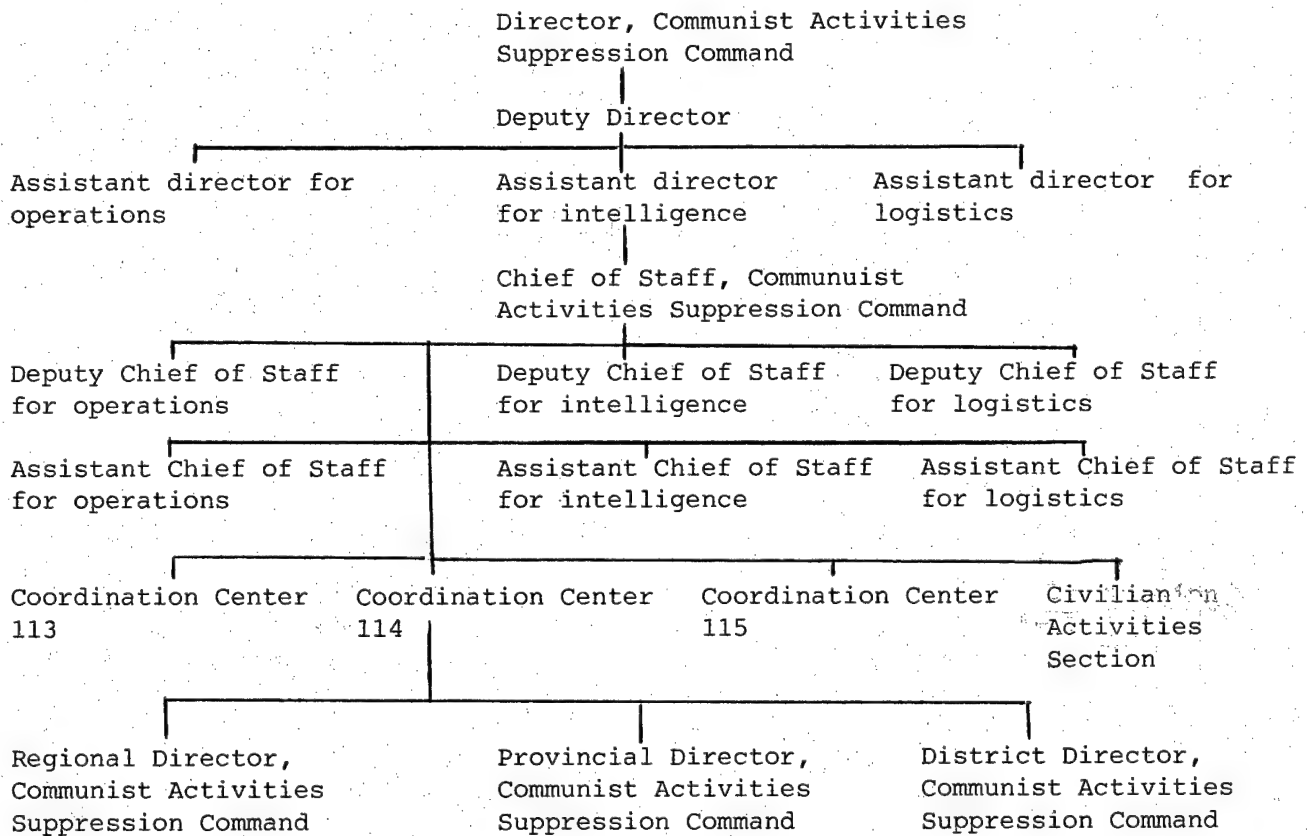
OLD, CURRENT ISOC ORGANIZATION CHARTS COMPARED

Bangkok SU ANAKHOT in Thai 19-25 Dec 82 pp 16-17

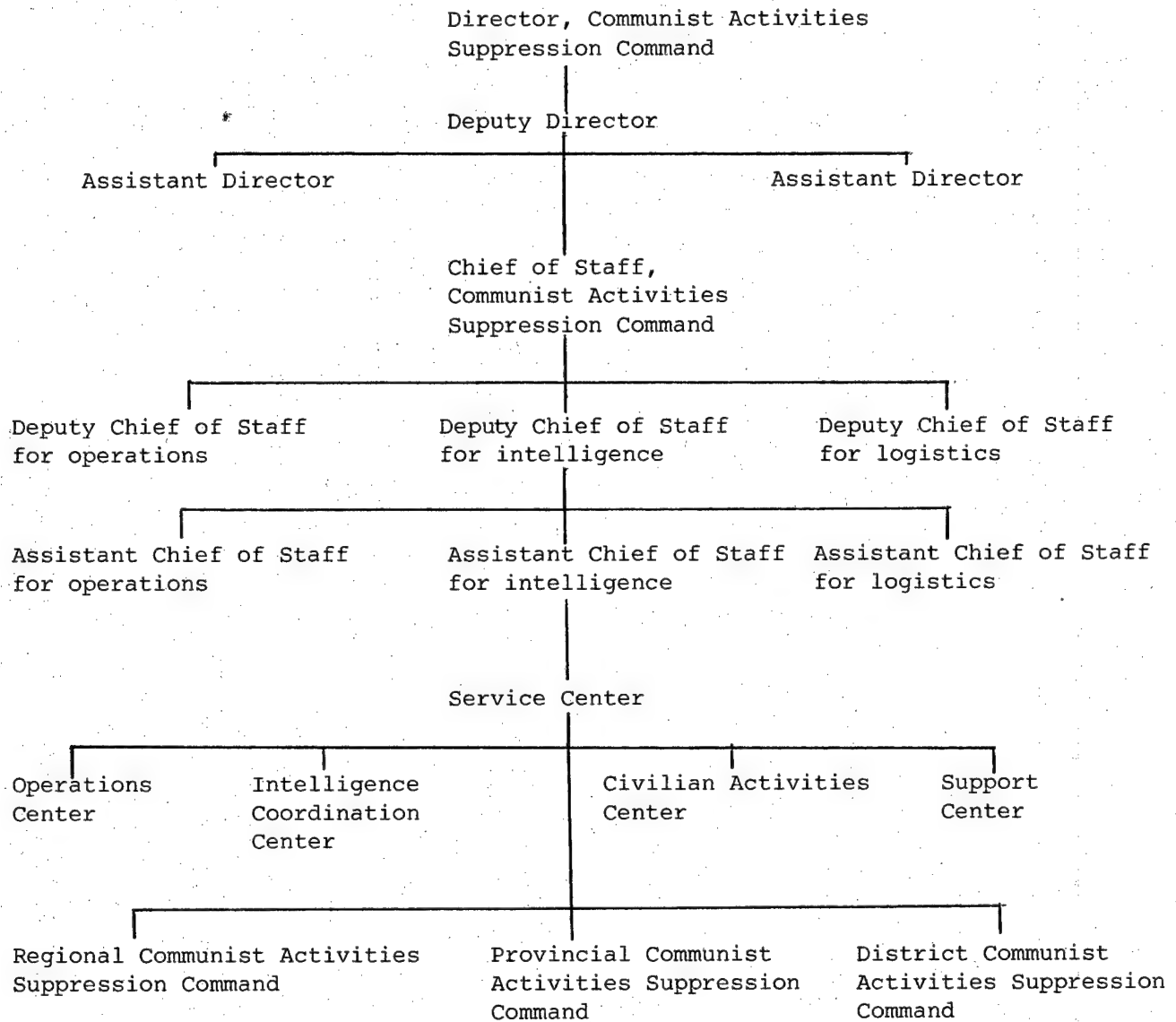
[Article: "ISOC Reorganized to Cope With CPT Politics"]

[Excerpt]

OLD STRUCTURE



New Structure



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HAN SAYS MALAYSIA CONTINUES TO IGNORE SEPARATISTS

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 18 Dec 82 pp 1, 12

[Article: "Han Is Angry With Malaysia Over the Bandit Terrorists Matter; He Has 'Threatened' to Disband the Special Activities Force"]

[Text] The commanding general of the Fourth Army Area is "resentful" about the fact that Thailand has been taken advantage of by Malaysia in solving the border problem. He has said that, to solve things, there must be national-level discussions with Malaysia. As a "threat," he has said that the special joint-activities force should be disbanded if Malaysia does not cooperate.

In his capacity as the chairman of the Regional Border Committee, Lieutenant General Han Linanon, the commanding general of the Fourth Army Area, was interviewed by the journal CHAT ATHIPATAI. The interview appeared in the Sunday, 19 December, issue. He was interviewed on the problem of suppressing the bandit terrorists. He said that Thailand has not been able to suppress the bandit terrorists because Malaysia has not been willing to acknowledge the bandit terrorist problem.

Concerning this, Lieutenant General Han said that "Malaysia maintains that the only enemy of Thailand and Malaysia is the MCG (Malaysian communist guerrillas)." Malaysia steadfastly and resolutely refuses to acknowledge the bandit terrorist problem.

When asked whether Thailand feels resentful about being taken advantage of like this by Malaysia, Lieutenant General Han said "why shouldn't we feel resentful. We have sincerely cooperated with Malaysia in suppressing the MCG even though the MCG does not have any targets that threaten Thailand."

Lieutenant General Han confirmed that during the past fiscal year, the national army of Thailand attacked the secure bases of the 8th MCG Regiment in Nathawi District, Songkhla Province, the 10th MCG Regiment in Waeng District, Narathiwat Province, and the 12th MCG Regiment in Betong District, Yala Province. This has made it impossible for the MCG to liberate Malaysia.

Concerning the reasons for destroying the forces of the MCG, Lieutenant General Han said that an independent country cannot allow illegal foreign forces to

bear arms in the country. To allow this would damage the country's honor.

Lieutenant General Han said that he had raised the matter of suppressing the bandit terrorists at several meetings of the Regional Border Committee and that he had told the committee that both the bandit terrorists and the Malaysian communist guerrillas are common enemies of both Thailand and Malaysia.

"But Malaysia has never replied."

"I have told Malaysia that I will report this matter to the government so that this problem can be solved quickly at the national level. And the duties of the Regional Border Committee should be changed so that it is responsible for the bandit terrorist problem."

"I am sure that a conclusion will be reached. If Malaysia continues to refuse to discuss the bandit terrorist problem with us, we should disband the mixed Thai special activities force and cancel the activities of the Regional Border Committee that concern the MCG."

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CSO: 4207/56

EDITORIAL DISCUSSES LANGUAGE PROBLEMS IN SOUTH

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 21 Dec 82 p 3

[Editorial: "Thai Language In the South"]

[Text] An important problem that has troubled the government for a long time in governing the four southern provinces of Thailand is the language problem. Most of the Thai Muslims there converse with each other in Yawi, which is a mixture of Malay and the local language. Their knowledge of the Thai language, including both the written and spoken forms of the language, is very limited. The language problem poses a great obstacle to bringing about understanding between the government officials and the local people. At the same time, this is something that has been used to give rise to various movements, most of which have bad intentions toward Thailand. These movements have used the racial, language and religious differences as a tool.

Last week, there were reports that the Fourth Army Area, together with the civilian administration in the southern provinces, is making plans to allow Thai Muslim children in the five southern provinces of Songkhla, Yala, Pattani, Narathiwat and Satun to study Thai according to the primary school curriculum. [According to the plan], at least 930 schools will be opened for approximately 25,000 Thai Muslim pupils so that they can learn to speak and read Thai. This is very good news, particularly in view of the fact that while Thai Muslim children have the same right to study at higher levels as other Thai children, a major obstacle for them is their lack of knowledge of the Thai language.

According to the program presented in the news reports, measures will be taken to help ensure that Thai Muslim children have a chance to continue their educations all the way to the university level. Thai Muslim children who complete secondary school in accord with this program will be able to go on to a university without having to take an entrance examination like Thai students in general. The purpose is to have them use the knowledge and abilities that they have gained in the localities where they grew up.

This is a good idea. But one problem is that it is not known how long this will continue to be done or how regularly it will be done if those who put this idea into practice are replaced. This is one [reason] for the constant failures experienced by Thailand in implementing programs.

Concerning the Thai language problem in the southern provinces, there should be a well-thought-out course of action that will enable the Thai Muslims in the localities there to see the necessity of speaking Thai more and more. Even though Thai is being spoken more these days, this course of action should include granting special privileges in contacting government officials on matters of interest or other matters to those who can speak, read and write Thai. Instead of the officials having to learn the local language in order to please them, the officials who come in contact with the people in the localities there should be given training so that they understand how to get the people in Thailand to accept the Thai language as their own language. This is essential. But it must be brought about voluntarily and not through compulsion as was mentioned in the program of action.

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THAILAND

WORKERS UNINFORMED ON UNIONS, FACE PRESSURE FROM BOSSES

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 17 Dec 82 p 5

[The Law and Society column by Assistant Professor Nuanchan Thatsanachaikun and Mr Amornrit Emapan: "The Problem of the Workers and the Labor Unions: a Study Concerning the Labor Relations Act of 1975"]

[Text] At present, Thailand is trying to develop the industrial sector of the economy by supporting private investment. But investment is not enough. The use of human resources in industry is an important matter. The industrial plants are all experiencing problems with the workers. For example, disputes concerning the employment situation and strikes occur all the time. Such things result in economic losses for the employers, the employees and the government.

This study received financial support from the National Research Council. To carry out the study, six industrial plants were selected at random from among those plants that have a labor union and that employ over 500 workers (the list of companies was obtained from the Department of Labor). These plants were located in Prathumthani, Ayuthaya and Samut Prakan provinces and Bangkok Metropolitan. To conduct the study, a total of 225 workers were interviewed, 132 of whom were members of a labor union and 93 of whom were not. Besides this, the study looked at the problems about which people have complained and at the facts. It turned out that 54.55 percent of the workers had a Grade 1-Grade 7 education; 65 percent earned less than 2,000 baht per month. Most were in the 26-30 age group, and 75 percent were employed on a daily basis. As many as 80.64 percent did not have any knowledge about or understand union principles. For example, they did not know who the masters of the union are, why the unions had been established or the roles and duties of the labor unions. A total of 45.45 percent of the employees understood the reasons for the strikes. [Of these], 66.25 percent said that there were strikes because the employees wanted higher wages and various benefits. An important reason why workers have joined a union is that they want the union to protect their interests. As for why workers have not joined a union, besides the fact that they do not know anything about them or understand union principles, one reason is that employers are still using their influence to threaten the employees indirectly. Workers feel that employers do not want them to become members, and, actually, the employers can inspect the labor union membership lists. Thus, the workers are afraid that this would affect their work stability, with

the employers finding a way to fire them. Another reason is that even if they do not become union members, they still receive the same rights and benefits from the employers as do those who are members of a labor union. And an important reason concerns the labor unions themselves. That is, the role of the labor unions is very small. They have not scored any noticeable achievements. Thus, workers do not feel that the labor unions have done anything that benefits the members.

Seventy-five percent of the workers are employed on a daily basis. Concerning these workers, even though they have worked for many years and are skilled workers, they have not been made permanent employees. This is because the Labor Relations Act of 1975 does not require employers to give them this status but rather leaves this up to the discretion of the employers. The same is true for wages; 69.59 percent of the workers are paid the minimum wage allowed by the labor law. Even people who have worked for many years and who are skilled workers have not received a pay raise.

Some of the labor union committees are composed of employers and so they do not really fulfill their duty of acting as the representatives of the employees in negotiating with the employers and they do not protect the interests of the employees or really make demands on their behalf. An example is the matter of employees applying to join a labor union. In the section on applying to become a member of a labor union, the Labor Relations Act of 1975 does not stipulated the number of days in which the application must be processed. Thus, this is a loophole in the law that allows labor union committees to delay or turn down the applications of workers who do not side with the employers. This is because the employers have influence over the labor union committees in carrying on the activities of the union. As for the data that was obtained, 48.48 percent of the workers felt that the unions are protecting the interests of the workers and 37.12 percent felt that the unions remain neutral in the negotiations.

In the opinion of the writers, the low level of education of the workers has resulted in their lacking enthusiasm for carrying on a movement. They lack ideas and do not take responsibility for the group. They do not think about waging a struggle in order to improve their situation. Workers do not apply to join the labor unions because they are afraid that this will make their employers angry. It is worth noting that, concerning this, most of the workers live near the factories, which is something that makes the workers very happy. But the most important reason is that the workers lack knowledge and do not really understand union principles. They do not like to join groups for long periods, attend meetings or pay membership dues. Few of those on the labor union committees know much about the labor laws and so they cannot hold seminars to educate the rank-and-file members. And because of the fact that the committees do not really protect the interests of the workers because of the influence of the employers in the background, the unions cannot carry out their duties legally in accord with the aims. Whenever there is a strike and the workers do anything that violates the law, the employers become very strict about even minor matters or fire those workers who are labor leaders.

This clearly shows that the employers are dissatisfied and that they will immediately make use of the laws instead of trying to smooth things over and reach a compromise with the workers. Another reason is that the labor laws contain loopholes that the employers can use to take advantage of the workers. Examples are their failure to make workers permanent workers and increase their wages after the workers have worked there for a long time and the methods used to approve union membership applications.

Ways to solve the problems: The government, through the provincial labor offices, should regularly hold seminars to educate the committees and workers about the Labor Relations Act of 1975. In cases in which employers use their influence to threaten employees indirectly, the government, through the provincial labor offices, should quickly point out things to the workers so they understand and set penalties by promulgating a stricter employee protection law. It should also make revisions in order to close the legal loopholes. Concerning positions, wage increases and the approval of union membership applications, there should be stipulated time periods or other methods in order to prevent the employers from deciding matters on their own. The Labor Department should have measures to oversee the provincial labor committees in stimulating and monitoring the activities of the labor unions so that the unions play a role in the activities and actually carry out their duties and do not fall under the influence of the employers.

The writers feel that if the government officials carry out their duty of supervising the unions and employers in a serious way, more workers will apply to join the labor unions and this will result in their having the power to protect themselves.

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CSO" 4207/56

THAILAND

HARSH CONFINEMENT CONDITIONS OF POLITICAL PRISONERS REPORTED

Bangkok SIAM MAI in Thai 24 Dec 82 pp 19-21

[Article: "Adun Bunruong: a Communist Who Was Forgotten"]

[Text] On 15 August 1978 in front of the Prasat hospital in Chiang Mai Province, three strong men armed with pistols seized Mr Saeng Sapsuk, a suspect in a communist case, while he was being taken for a physical examination. One of the policemen guarding him was killed and another was wounded.

Officials believe that this bold and resolute act was definitely committed by people from the mountains. Chiang Mai was searched thoroughly. Officials from all sectors were mobilized to search for clues and discover the reason behind this action.

On 2 August 1979, Mr Adun Bunruong, a former student in the Industrial Engineering Department, Chiang Mai Technical College, was arrested by officials on communist charges. Later on, he was charged with the death of the police official in this case involving the seizure of a communist terrorist in the city.

The visiting area at the Bang Khwang Prison was filled with the talk of visitors and inmates, who stood 1 meter apart holding on to the bars.

As for Adun Bunruong, age 23, with his neat appearance and youthful face, he presented a very different appearance than the other prisoners. It was almost impossible to believe that he was a suspect in the killing of an official and that he had been sentenced to death.

"I have been here 8 months now," said Adun politely. The light in his eyes showed that he was delighted by the fact that people had not forgotten about him.

Concerning the day that he was arrested by the police, Adun said that he was beaten severely. He was then left in a dark cell for 7 months. During that period he never saw any light. The cell was filled with various types of reptiles and insects such as mosquitoes, leeches, gnats and cockroaches.

Even though Adun has now been moved to Area 6 of the Bang Khwang Prison, the prison is overflowing with prisoners. The prisoners have to live packed together tightly. There are 16 people in Adun's cell. When sleeping, each person has an area about 2 feet wide to sleep in.

As for medical treatment inside the prison, very little is provided. Adun said that, once when he had a stomach-ache from a stomach disorder, he went to see the hospital doctor for an examination. The only thing the doctor did was to give him two or three tablets wrapped in a piece of newspaper. He did not discuss the matter with him at all.

Because of conditions in the prison, Adun established a small health program to help treat his fellow prisoners. To do this, he relied on various medical journals and the medicines that friends gave him when they came to visit him.

He is a native of Chiang Mai Province. His parents were farmers in Thung Pi Commune, San Pa Tong District, Chiang Mai Province. While he was studying at the Chiang Mai Technical College, his father died. And because his family was very poor, he had to drop out of college in 1976 in order to help his mother with the farm work. Adun said that when he was a student, he took part in many activities at the college, including exhibitions and scholarly debates. Also, he was once elected president of a club, and he was elected to the student council. It was because of these things that he was "watched" for a long time.

On 2 August 1979, provincial police officials in San Pa Tong District arrested Adun and took him to the Chiang Mai provincial police station for interrogation. At first, he was charged with having engaged in communist activities. But the investigation did not turn up any evidence. Fourteen days after his arrest, on 16 August, the officials charged him with having killed a policeman on 15 August 1978 near the Prasat Hospital in Chiang Mai in order to release Mr Saeng Sapsuk, a suspect in a communist case.

"Things are much better here," said Mr Adun concerning the living conditions at the Bang Khwang Central Prison, where he was transferred to 8 months ago. After he was charged with killing the police official, he was first sent to the Chiang Mai central prison and imprisoned in a dark cell by himself even though he had not violated prison regulations.

At that time, the Lawyers' Association of Thailand submitted an appeal asking the Chiang Mai central prison to treat Mr Adun like an ordinary inmate. Mr Adun was released from his isolation cell. But he was kept in a small cell and kept in chains for a full year.

The Chiang Mai provincial military court rendered a verdict against Adun on 30 March 1982 on the charge of killing a police official. The case had gone to this military court on 13 November 1979 and thus it took 2 years and 4 months for the court to render a verdict and sentence him to death. And since this case was tried by a military court, Mr Adun does not have the right to file an appeal or petition.

He was moved to death row at the Bang Khwang Central Prison on 30 April 1982. But after that his sentence was reduced to life in prison.

"My mother came and visited me once. And a few friends from Bangkok have come to see me, but they don't come often," said Adun to SIAM MAI concerning visits by his family and friends since his transfer to the Bang Khwang Prison. And when he was asked how long he thought he would have to stay in prison, he just smiled and shook his head as if not being able to foresee a future that appears to be rather dark. His eyes expressed sadness at a fate that has led him into prison while the charges in the various cases seem to keep piling up.

Charged with being a threat to national security and having engaged in communist activities, Adun was tried before the Bangkok military court on 28 May this year. But he has not been forgotten. Mr Thongbai Thongpao of the Lawyers' Association of Thailand has provided as much help as possible.

Although the government has announced Policy 66/1980 and given the communists a chance to wage a peaceful struggle openly, in the dark corners of the prisons, there are still many people who have been imprisoned on very broad charges. These people have been ignored by the policies that the military and government officials have talked about so much. Added to the general errors, they are also oppressed by military and government officials. This may be because the government does not have anything to fear from them like it does in the case of the communists, which has made it necessary for the government to constantly make policy changes.

A person with a background similar to that of Mr Adun Bunruong is Mr Thongdi Chantaphing, age 34. He was arrested by officials at Ban Pha Mon in Ban Na Luong Commune, Chom Thong District, Chiang Mai Province, on 6 June 1978 on charges of having engaged in communist activities. He was imprisoned in an isolated cell in the Chiang Mai Central Prison and brought before the Chiang Mai military court on 18 September 1978. Later on, he was transferred to the Bangkok Special Prison.

And a human rights group has revealed that Mrs Wimon Phienthamdi, a communist suspect who once made the headlines, has lost her sight in one eye because her diabetes was not treated. And her other eye is starting to hurt her more and more.

"Is there any chance that the Communist Activities Act will be repealed," asked Adun Bunruong about the rumor that is the hope of "communists" who have been condemned and ignored by the government's policies for solving the communist problem.

"I will go to court again on 10 January next year," said Adun. And he asked only that people not forget him.

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CSO: 4207/54

THAILAND

BORDER COMMISSION COMPLAINS OF LACK OF MALAYSIAN COOPERATION

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 9 Dec 82 p 1, 12

[Text] The Thai Regional Border Commission is worried about the suppression of the terrorist bandit movement along the border area because Malaysia is not rendering cooperation in spite of Thailand's cooperation to smash three major Chinese communist camps.

The Thai-Malaysian Border Commission disclosed that Thailand is facing a grave problem regarding the suppression of the terrorist bandit movement (or KHOR JOR KOR). This is because the cooperation between Thailand and Malaysia is not adequate, since Malaysia does not recognize the terrorist bandit movement as being a hostile international movement, whereas Thailand recognizes that the Chinese communist bandits are mutual enemies of Thailand and Malaysia. And the Fourth Army Region has conducted an operation under the "Tai Rom Yen Strategic Plan 11" (Southern Tranquility Strategic Plan 11) to successfully suppress three Chinese communist strongholds, such as Chinese Communist camp Eight in Songkhla, which is headed by Chinese Comrade Peng, and which has been in existence for 30 years; Chinese Communist Camp Ten in Narathiwat; and Chinese Communist Camp 12 in Yala, which is the biggest Chinese communist group.

Malaysia said it has no policy regarding the cooperation in this matter. Meanwhile, the chairman of the Thai Regional Border Commission, Lt Gen Harn Leenanond said he engaged in a heated argument with the Malaysian side in a joint meeting of the Thai-Malaysian Border Commission, but was unable to reach any agreement because the Malaysian Regional Border Commission maintained that the local government in Malaysia does not recognize that there is any cooperation and said that there is no policy regarding such cooperation.

Reports said that Lt Gen Harn Leenanond has requested that this matter be submitted to the Federal Government of Malaysia. It is not known if Lt Gen Harn's request has been presented to the Malaysian Government. Even when Malaysian Prime Minister Datu Mohamad Mahathir visited Thailand, it was still not known if Lt Gen Harn's request was discussed by the Malaysian Cabinet. But it is believed that the matter of cooperation will be raised during his visit to Bangkok.

The Thai Regional Border Commission said Thailand has lost a lot in its dealing with Malaysia--be it in the matter of the terrorist bandit suppression or the demarcation of the border. Malaysia completely refused to cooperate in the latter, even though the terrorist bandits have their strongholds inside the border of Malaysia.

Reports said Malaysia is building a strategic road along the Malaysian-Thai border to thwart the Chinese Communists from escaping into the Malaysian side in spite of the fact that the Chinese Communists no longer pose any threat. This is because the Fourth Army Region has seized all of their major camps.

However, it is expected that in the meeting between Malaysia's Prime Minister and Thai Prime Minister General Prem Tinnasulanonda all of these problems will be raised, since at present Thailand is not in a position to do anything for fear that it might affect the Thai-Malaysian relations.

Meanwhile, Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri, secretary general of the National Security Council of Thailand, said in an interview with reporters at Government House last night that he will be travelling to Yala Province on 13 December to attend a seminar on the problem of peace in the border area, problem of terrorist insurgency by many groups, and other social and economic problems; the seminar is to be held 14-17 December in Yala Province. Afterwards, he will travel to the Pirate Suppression Station in Songkhla Province to observe its operations.

Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri also referred to the communist guerrillas who surrendered to the authorities in great numbers, and said that it was a good thing. He said the authorities are ready to help them in any way that they can; and at the same time, he said, the communist insurgents should conduct themselves well in their living with us.

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CSO: 4207/48

IMPORTANCE OF BORDER TRADE FOR TEXTILES NOTED

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 9 Dec 82 p 11

[Article by Saengthai Khaoputhai]

[Text] You may recall that around the middle of this past year, General Athit Kamlang-ek, who at the time was still Assistant Commander-in-Chief of the Army, aggressively announced to the merchants in the border area: "Why do you have to trade at the place where I am going to engage in a battle?", and added at the end: "If you truly want to trade why don't you load all your goods onto a ship and send them right to the market? You don't have to trade right here (the border area)."

The market for clothes and textile products at the border area and in the Khmer refugee camps were the most vital for domestic textile products.

It was estimated that the yearly value of the trading in the border area was more than 2,000 million baht; and most of the trading involved clothes and food stuffs.

The decree issued by General Athit at the time gradually limited the size of trading and eventually the border area became an insignificant market for textile products. The border area market has continued to decline as an outlet for these products.

Textile production has been plagued by ailments since the end of last year. This is because, first, there was a rapid growth in textile production as a result of increased export market demand; and then, later, textile products were facing trade barriers imposed by large markets such as Europe and the United States. Textile products that were turned out in large quantities now flooded the domestic market. This effect continued up to the end of last year.

Many textile factories, unable to withstand the decline in the textile market, were closed down. A great number of factories which were able to tolerate high interest rates and high investment cost drastically reduced production. It was estimated that last year 2,000 workers in the textile production sector were laid off. This year the prediction has not yet been out; but it is expected that at least 2,000 workers will be dismissed.

In fact, the Thai textile products have had good markets. In 1972, the value of Thai textile products was 638 million baht. Ten years later, the amount of exports increased 20 fold, that is, last year the value of textile products was 12,503 million baht.

Yet, our textile products are still flooding the markets. This is because of many factors, one of which is the world economic depression that has continued since 1980.

Another factor is that Thailand is facing tough competition from friendly countries in the same continent, such as Taiwan, which is not only taking away Thailand's textile markets abroad, but is also fearlessly dumping textile goods onto Thailand's domestic market. Even though the Thai Government set the tariffs for synthetic products at 10 percent, and yesterday increased it to 20 percent, it is still unable to deter Taiwan.

Moreover, the ban which prohibits textile products from being sent to the Khmer border or to Kampuchea itself is also another cause for the Thai textiles to be accumulated in the country.

As for domestic consumption, the economic recession is the main factor that caused the people to buy fewer textile products, resulting in their decline.

Another factor that caused the sales of textile products to slow down was the rapid change in fashion style. A change in fashion trend every 3 months can result in large stockpiles of each type of cloth. The stockpiles of cloth have continued over the years up to 1982. This is what is causing textile products to heavily flood the market today.

It is estimated that there are currently 4 million yards of cloth in stockpile, 3 million pounds of thread, and a large stockpile of other textile goods, including ready-made clothes.

However, the exports of textile products are still bringing in a large amount of income. The exports during the first 5 months of this year brought in 5,758 million baht, which was 35.64 percent higher than that of the same period last year. It is expected that this year the textile exports will increase in the same proportion.

Meanwhile, the future of textile exports to markets that have an agreement with Thailand, such as the European Economic Community, which is a large market, is also in trouble. This is because Europe itself is facing a problem similar to that of Thailand, that is, our low-priced textile products exported to Europe--what the Europeans call sensitive textile, so called because these products created a crisis in European markets--have outpriced European textile goods.

Textiles have been a major European industry since the Industrial Revolution 200 years ago. But now Europe is being outdone by such textile producing little giants as Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Thailand, etc.; this is because our products are cheaper as a result of low production cost, low labor cost, and cheap raw materials.

Around the beginning of this year, at least 200,000 workers in the textile production sector in Europe were laid off; and the rate of the workers being laid off continues to increase.

As a result, Europe has called upon each country that exports textile products to Europe to make an agreement individually, in which limited quotas of textile products for each country have been set. If the amount of exports exceeded the quota provided in the agreement, Europe would impose as much tariff as it pleases; and if the exporting country could still compete with domestic products in Europe even after the imposition of such high tariff rates, the Europeans say that's fine.

These are the barriers of the Thai textile exports in the markets. Not much can be done about them. We simply have to turn to look at our own situation and cut down production within the country.

Apart from this, we have to look for new markets in the Middle East, Africa, and in our neighboring countries such as Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam. Even though these countries may have a political ideology different from ours they still use American dollars in their trading.

However, we are still being held back by the ban from the National Security Council, which considers textile products to be strategic goods. This discourages us from exporting textile goods to these countries--in spite of the fact that Vietnam and Kampuchea can buy clothes from other places without having to rely on Thailand, because other countries are also producing textile products for sale--like us.

And none of these communist countries would be so sensitive as to reply only on Thailand for textile goods, or else they would have to wear only loin cloths to fight us.

12282

CSO: 4207/48

THAILAND

LOCATIONS OF MINERAL RESOURCES NOTED

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 11 Dec 82 p 11

[Text] Karnchanaburi has turned out to be the richest in minerals--as many as 17 types have been discovered. Mining has started. Gold has been found in 18 provinces.

The latest report of the Mineral Resources Department, Ministry of Industry, released on 10 November 1982, revealed the amounts of minerals that have been found in Thailand so far. The report indicated that Karnchanaburi has started its mining operations and has already produced the greatest numbers of minerals--up to as many as 17 types. They are tin, wolfram, lead, zinc, antimony, gem, fluorite, dolomite, dinmarl, feldspar, stone-lime for cement production, quartz, sapphire, calcite, phosphate, columbite, tantalite. And, in addition, seven more types have been discovered. They are: Copper, iron, lepidolite, marlite, manganese, celite, columbium-tantalum, gold, yipsom, and silver. There are now a total of 27 types of minerals.

The province that ranks second in mineral production is Lampang, which has already produced 13 types of minerals. Seven more types have been discovered so that Lampang now has 20 types of minerals. Prachuab Khirikhan has produced 12 types of minerals; and six more have been found, and the province now has 18 types of minerals. In Surat Thani Province, 12 types of minerals have been mined, and three more have been uncovered; and the province now has 15 types of minerals.

The report also stated that gold, which is a high value mineral, has been discovered in Chanthaburi, Chachoengsao, Chumporn, Chiangrai, Nakhon Sawan, Prachuab Khirikhan, Petchburi, Petchbun, Prae, Ranong, Ratchaburi, Lopburi, Lampang, Lampun, Loei, Sukhothai, Udon Thani. And in Narathiwat, the mining of gold has started. There are a total of 18 provinces where gold has been discovered.

12282

CSO: 4207/48

THAILAND

EASTERN SEABOARD DEVELOPMENT PROSPECTS SURVEYED

Bangkok PATINYA in Thai 27 Dec 82 pp 23-25

[Article: "The Eastern Seaboard Development Project, Are We Ready?"]

[Text] In a situation in which things are uncertain and in which there are constant economic, social and political changes, every country, particularly the developing countries, must improve and expand the structure of its economic system so that it is flexible and better able to withstand the effects of changes stemming from outside factors. Thailand is in the same situation. Now, natural gas has been found in the Gulf of Thailand and so the government has set targets for developing the industries capable of putting the existing domestic raw materials, particularly natural gas, to the best use possible. In addition, it [is promoting] the construction of regional population centers that will be able to compete with Bangkok. This will help slow down the rate of expansion and reduce the crowded conditions in Bangkok. This will be done by creating work in the industrial sector, which will be developed to serve as a force leading to the goals.

So that things proceed in accord with the targets mentioned above, the state has stipulated locations in the Sattahip-Rayong area for building new industrial and population centers. In doing this, attention has been given to the suitability of this area in terms of its geographical, environmental and other characteristics and to the opportunities for directly expanding development activities into the northeast.

Concerning this, the types of industries to be constructed in the targeted areas have been stipulated. In the initial period, these will be industries that use natural gas as a raw material. Such industries include the chemical fertilizer and soda ash industries. Later on, there will be related industries and other industries. Besides this, new population centers will be developed in order to support and provide services for the industrial centers that will spring up. They will be independent population centers that are self-reliant. To do this, the state will develop the infrastructure, including the deep-water ports and the highway, railroad, power, water supply, telecommunications and waste-water disposal systems. It will also stipulate measures to promote private-sector investment in various industries in the stipulated areas.

As for the infrastructure, particularly the deep-water ports, which much be developed hand-in-hand with industry because of their close relationship in terms of location and their ability to handle ships that are large enough to bring in raw materials and take out goods in order to compete commercially with world markets, the government has stipulated a policy based on a cabinet resolution of 21 April 1981. That is, the existing commercial port at Sattahip will be developed and expanded immediately so that it can serve as a deep-water port.

The Plan of the Project

After considering the locations of the basic industries in the Sattahip-Rayong area and the types of industries that must be located near a deep-water port in order to be able to compete with world markets in the long term, the plans for developing the deep-water port along the eastern seaboard were revised. Consideration has been given to systematic planning in order to make good use of Sattahip Port, the Cha Bang Peninsula and Rayong Bay. As for the plans to develop the eastern seaboard, targeted areas have been stipulated in the Sattahip-Rayong area. The general suitability of this area, from the standpoint of port industries, the infrastructure, the layout of the towns, the environment and social and political aspects, was considered. The Sattahip-Rayong area was chosen for the following reasons:

1. This area has great potential for use as a primary industrial area in the country. This is because there is sufficient land, the land is not very fertile from an agricultural standpoint and the population density is not very high.
2. This is the area where natural gas from the Gulf of Thailand comes on shore and it will be the site of a natural gas separation plant, which would make things convenient for industries that use natural gas as a raw material.
3. It is near the existing infrastructure projects such as Sattahip commercial port, the Utaphao airport and the Dok Kruai Reservoir. And the existing highway, railroad and power systems are fairly good.
4. It is situated along an open coastline, which will lead to fewer environmental problems than would be the case along the coast in the inner part of the Gulf of Thailand.
5. It is located sufficiently far from Bangkok that Bangkok will not be able to exert influence and draw development back [to Bangkok]. This will enable it to become an independent and self-reliant industrial and population center that will be able to open a way for the benefits of development to spread to the northeast directly.

Concerning the plans to develop the eastern seaboard, in the targeted Sattahip-Rayong area, there are three important aspects:

1. The infrastructure is one aspect that the state must invest in so that it can provide sufficient and comprehensive services for the industrial and population centers in the long term. This includes the pipeline construction project to bring water from the Dok Kruai Reservoir to the industrial and population centers and to the Sattahip commercial port, the railroad construction project to link Sattahip and Rayong and to link the eastern railroad line with the northeastern line without having to pass through Bangkok and the project to improve and expand the existing highway, power and telecommunications systems.

2. The state must invest in developing the deep-water ports in order to have things be in line with the needs of the industries that will be built and to support the needs in the goods sector in general both in the short term and the long term. This includes the first-phase project to improve and expand the Sattahip commercial port, the project to make surveys and study the possibility of building a deep-water port in the Maptaphut area in Rayong Bay and the project to develop the port on the Cha Bang Pensisula.

3. Industry is the aspect that the state and private sector will invest in in order to build industrial plants in the stipulated area. This includes the natural gas separation plant project, the chemical fertilizer project, the soda ash project, the ethylene project and the petrochemical industry project.

All of this is the responsibility of the work coordination unit of the Center for the Analysis and Coordination of Operations Plans in its capacity as the Office of the Secretary of the Committee for the Development of the Eastern Seaboard Area. Besides this, the Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board has hired an advisory company (Coopers and Lybrand) to conduct a study in order to draft a plan for developing the eastern seaboard. This area includes the three provinces of Chachoengsao, Chonburi and Rayong. As for investments, the amount of money invested will total 103 billion baht. Of this, approximately 47.4 billion baht will be invested by the private sector. The government will invest a total of 45.3 billion baht. Ninety percent of this money will be borrowed, with most of the money borrowed from abroad.

Are We Ready?

When public relations activities began on the eastern seaboard development project, scholars voiced the criticism that developing the eastern seaboard would result in other economic sectors, such as agriculture, being ignored, even though it is necessary that we develop these sectors. This is because developing the various economic sectors simultaneously is very difficult. In particular, in a country such as Thailand that has little capital, developing the various economic sectors at the same time is virtually impossible. Many people do not think that Thailand should place so much emphasis on industrial production that agriculture is ignored. At the same time, the agricultural sector is experiencing many problems. The fact that a choice must be made about which sector to place the emphasis on will result in unbalanced development.

Such unbalanced development will bear fruit only when industry, or the sector that is emphasized, spreads the results of its growth to the other sectors and the connections with industry are good. But if the emphasis is placed on industry or some other sector that cannot spread the results of the growth and the links of industry in an efficient way, the result will be great waste. And this may throw the economic system into greater turmoil. Based on its study, the Coopers and Lybrand Company, which the Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board hired to study the project, found that there will be few direct benefits from the main industries built to develop the eastern seaboard. Thus, it is feared that investments will not be recouped and that this will ruin investments in other spheres.

Another problem with the project is that the development of the eastern seaboard relies on obtaining a sufficient quantity of natural gas from the Gulf of Thailand. But ever since the natural gas came on line, the Petroleum Authority of Thailand has not received the amount of gas stipulated (for the details, see the article "The Fading Dream of Thais" in PATINYA, issue 188). The worrisome thing is whether we will be able to carry on this project in accord with the targets at a time when we are not receiving the full amount of energy or basic raw materials that are obtained from gas.

However, industrial development along the eastern seaboard is unbalanced development. We can expect to gain indirect benefits such as the spread of the resulting growth and the birth of related industries. But the thing that must be discussed is whether the government, particularly the units and the bureaucracy, is ready and has the capabilities to manage things efficiently enough to serve as the mechanism in stressing industrial development so that the effects of this spread to other regions as everyone hopes. This fear exists because the failure of this large-scale project would mean that a huge sum of money would be lost and this great debt would be passed on to future generations.

11943

CSO: 4207/53

EDITORIAL SEES 'NO REASON' TO FEAR COUP

BK261324 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 25 Jan 83 p 3

[Editorial: "Political Differences"]

[Text] The difference of opinions which took place over the last few weeks has declined in intensity. The attempts by the MP's or the military to convene the national assembly to amend the constitution has become less vigorous, particularly since 21 January which is 90 days before the expiration of the term of the House of Representatives in accordance with the constitution.

Democracy suffered a crisis no less than once last week which began when a television program was aired expressing the military's support for amending the constitution in favor of the independent candidacy electoral system, broadening the power of the senators and permitting government officials to be appointed to political positions. This proposal received vigorous opposition from many circles, causing the originator of the proposal to withdraw from the issue and some soldier senators to resign from the senate.

What has taken place is not unusual in a democratic system in which conflicting opinions do not mean life and death and in which a minority respects the opinion of the majority. Also, the withdrawal of a proposal is not a loss of face but a praiseworthy demonstration of respect for the rules of democracy.

For this reason, we see no reason for the fears of the coup which still dominate casual conversations in many circles. Now that the situation has progressed to this stage, there is no need to risk offending the people with a coup. All of us should earnestly work for politics to be meaningful and for democracy in Thailand.

The election is only a short time away and the political situation has relaxed enough for those who want to serve the country in politics to make their plans. This preelection period should be used for instilling and arousing awareness among the people of their voting rights and their freedom to exercise their judgment in choosing their representatives.

The country is still beset by the problem of the people's livelihood and by economic problems. They should be tackled continuously. Time should not be wasted on nonsensical matters such as those which just transpired.

CSO: 4207/71

THAILAND

BRIEFS

ELECTION ANALYSIS--General Athit Kamlang-ek has said in an interview that if the constitution is to be amended, it should be done before the election. This remark is interesting. Some analysts feel that a compromise is possible by which the constitution would be amended after the election. This analysis lacks reason. This is because an election held under the new electoral system will give the House of Representatives greater power than any other body and will bring in a prime minister belonging to one of the political parties. In such situation it will be virtually impossible to do anything within the bounds of the law to retain the powers of the current center of power which is represented by General Prem. In any event, the attempt of the current center of power and the group advocating order 66/1980 to retain their powers could be their last and so it is very vigorous. If it is blocked, shewer power or something else above that could be brought to bear as a last resort. To sum up, if Athit cannot ascent to power, it has to be Prem; it could never be Praman or Khukrit because of the mistrust of political parties and the survival of the national-level policy enunciated by order 66/1980. [Excerpt] [BK261134 Bangkok SIAM MAI in Thai 21 Jan 83 pp 12-14]

CSO: 4207/71

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

EDITORIAL EXTOLS OCTOBER REVOLUTION, VIETNAM-SOVIET SOLIDARITY

Hanoi COC LAP in Vietnamese 3 Nov 82 p 3

[Editorial by Nghiem Xuan Yem: "Pride and Confidence in the Soviet Union--the Strong Bulwark of World Revolution and Peace"]

[Text] In the seething offensive spirit emanating from the three revolutionary currents in the present era and together with the mightily rising movement for world peace and against armaments race, our Vietnamese people are joining the peoples of the Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist community in merrily celebrating the 65th anniversary of the great October Revolution with a deep pride and a constant faith in the revolutionary path of social, national and human liberation which has been opened up by the October Revolution for the peoples of all countries on the earth and for the sake of a peaceful, civilized and happy life for mankind.

In light of the evervictorious Marxist-Leninist doctrine and under the eminent leadership of the great Lenin and the glorious CPSU, the USSR people have been the vanguards along that revolutionary path which has been opened up during this new era for mankind. To date, the historic span of the past 65 years has shown every more clearly and fully the epochal importance of the brilliant achievements of the October Revolution.

These glorious revolutionary achievements in all fields--political, economic, social, cultural, scientific and national defense--have endowed the people of the Soviet Union with an invincible combined strength enabling them to build socialism successfully, to develop it and to build material-technical bases for communism. Owing to this invincible combined strength, the Soviet Union has vanquished all enemies, saved mankind from the fascist danger and fulfilled all its noble international duties toward the peoples of the fraternal socialist countries and many other friendly countries in the world.

The Vietnamese people are very proud of and confident in the Soviet Union--the firm pillar of the socialist community and the stable support of the world revolution.

Especially in the present situation when international peace and security are running the risk of being threatened seriously by the bellicose and aggressive policies and all the plots of the U.S. imperialists and the Beijing

international reactionaries, expansionists and hegemonists to provoke a genocidal war by means of nuclear weapons, we feel exceedingly proud of and confident in the Soviet Union in the global struggle for world peace.

In this fierce struggle, if U.S. imperialism shows ever more brazenly its face as an international culprit who cunningly sabotages peace, the world people will see ever more clearly that the Soviet Union is the staunch and powerful builder and defender of peace.

The Soviet Union is the strong fortress of peace!

Indeed, socialism and peace are closely associated. Socialist construction cannot be detached from peaceful and creative labor for the sake of mankind's happiness and civilization. The banner raised by Lenin since the October Revolution has been one which combines socialism with peace. Ever since the formation of the socialist system, the unswerving foreign policy of the socialist community has always been to struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and socialism and to link all strategic missions of building and defending socialism with the strategic mission of consolidating and safeguarding peace. With the Soviet Union as the pillar, the powerful socialist system has constantly been an active factor exercising a decisive effect on the struggle for peace and the happiness and progress of mankind.

Shining with the just cause, the Soviet Union's peace program for the 80's which was recently presented at the 26th Congress of the CPSU has been hailed and responded to by progressive people everywhere in the world. More specifically, the initiatives taken by Chairman L.I. Brezhnev on disarmament and unilateral limitation of nuclear weapons have clarified more than ever the Soviet Union's goodwill for peace: Unilaterally reducing the number of its troops and tanks in Central Europe by 20,000 and 1,000 respectively, unilaterally postponing the deployment of its mid-range nuclear weapons in part of the Soviet Union's territory located in Europe and unilaterally pledging not to be the first to use nuclear weapons.

On the international arena, the voice of the Soviet Union has continuously been that of peace, its pledges have been made for the sake of peace and its acts have been aimed at peace. U.S. imperialism and its international reactionary clique have shamelessly distorted the well-intentioned initiatives of the Soviet Union. However, the truth has always shined brilliantly. All the people in the socialist community and all the democratic and peace forces on the earth have seen clearly and have acclaimed and admired the Soviet Union as the great and noble peace combatant.

Under the glorious banner of President Ho Chi Minh and the VCP, along the infallibly victorious revolutionary path opened up by the October Revolution and under the favorable conditions created by the swift victory of the Soviet Union's Red Army over the Japanese fascists for the success of the August 1945 Revolution, the Vietnamese people have gained brilliant and continuous victories in the national, democratic and socialist revolutions, liberated completely their country, unified it forever and built socialism in half of their country and then nationally. At the same time, our people have been

able to fulfill all their international duties and to make a worthy contribution to the common revolutionary cause of the Indochinese countries, the socialist community and the progressive world people during the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, expansionism and hegemonism and for the strengthening and preservation of international peace and security.

Throughout this process of revolutionary struggle, Vietnam and the Soviet Union have always walked hand in hand, jointly advanced, united and cooperated on friendly terms on the basis of a profound revolutionary attachment radiant with socialist internationalism.

In commemorating the October Revolution, we share in the joy of the fraternal people of the Soviet Union, with profuse feelings of gratitude to Lenin and to the party, state and people of the Soviet Union and with a great pride and an unshakable confidence in the constant solidarity and the faithful relationships of friendship and cooperation which will develop ever more stably, limpidly, loftily and splendidly between Vietnam and the Soviet Union!

9332

CSO: 4209/145

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH PARTY DISCIPLINE URGED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 28 Dec 82 p 3

[Article] by Vu Tung: "Application of Discipline Must Be Strict"

[Text] A serious case of lax management once took place at a transportation enterprise in a certain city. The party committee secretary and the enterprise director were in deep disagreement. The director did not respect party principles, and took it upon himself to solve misdeeds without consulting with the standing committee of the party committee. Negative instances were tolerated: Long-distance bus drivers smuggled goods by hiding them in metal boxes welded to the underbody; the director arbitrarily recruited reprehensible persons, who happened to be his relatives, to work in the organ, etc. The standing committee of the district party committee coordinated with the inspection board to conduct party and administrative control. Finally, on the party side, it was decided to apply discipline, denying promotion to both the party committee secretary and the enterprise director (himself a member of the standing committee of the party committee), and issuing warnings to a number of party members. The party committee secretary was replaced. On the administration side, however, the enterprise director continued to keep his job. Months later, following intervention by the standing committee of the municipal party committee, he was transferred, but to...a higher position.

In one ministry, the director of a supply corporation, who also served as party chapter secretary, was found lacking responsibility after damaging state properties, bartering supplies and fuel for food, and harassing subordinates and civil servants for straightforward criticisms. The minister signed an order to terminate the director; but, as party chapter secretary, the latter continued to supervise the issuance of party membership cards, and in the card-issuing campaign he was considered eligible. The district party committee explained, "We have given him a card because when the party chapter voted on the issue, he picked up more than one-half of the votes."

These are instances of loose application of discipline. Some organs and units, anxious to keep their reputation from being tainted, have refused to hold public sessions to try breaches of discipline. They have settled for "internal prosecution" simply because the violations were too big for them to conceal; nevertheless, the results of prosecution often were not known, even to most

personnel. Some unit chiefs overlooked, played down, or put up with their subordinates' flaws. Some party chapters lacked combativeness because members were timid, fearful and reluctant to expose upper cadres' wrongdoings. Party member behavior was blurred while member classification was laced with inaccuracies. Worse still, there were places where all party committee echelons at the basic level worked hand-in-hand with their local technical and administrative counterparts to commit misdeeds, hide shortcomings, falsify account books and documents, steal state supplies, gas and oil, and help bourgeois traders smuggle goods and evade taxes. In these places, tricks often were perpetrated to deceive both upper and lower echelons, cover up facts and thwart inspection.

Cadres and civil servants at every level--party members and nonmembers alike--must comply with state laws and regulations, and be held accountable before the law for violations, or errors caused by irresponsibility. Besides, party members must face party discipline, in accordance with party statutes. The masses demand that cadres and party members be exemplary in all respects, but first of all, in obeying their organization and discipline. Discipline must be applied to cadres, who are party members, in an absolutely strict manner. In places where permissiveness prevails, party combativeness is very weak, the masses' right to collective mastery is neither respected, nor fostered, upper cadres condone and protect wrongdoers, and the investigative process prior to prosecution of violations lacks urgency and promptness.

Forgiving and protecting cadres and party members, notwithstanding their errors, shortcomings, and even guilt, only contribute to lowering party prestige. It goes without saying that when it is necessary to apply party discipline to, or bring a violator before a court of law, an effort must be made to review and examine carefully the content and gravity of the violation, and the circumstances in which it was committed. Prosecution must be appropriate to each case, combining reason with sentiment. Since party members have high political consciousness and play a model vanguard role, they must not lean heavily on attenuating circumstances to reduce their guilt. Upon entering the party, all members swear to be loyal to it, and voluntarily to comply with its discipline. Those who do not report truthfully all the facts to the party, and who hide shortcomings have debased their behavior as party members. That is why, in some cases, harsher disciplinary measures must be taken.

The application of party discipline and state laws to violators invariably takes on an educational meaning: Violators need education to correct themselves; likewise, the public needs education to enhance discipline.

Lax discipline and lax respect for the law hardly contribute to thwarting negative manifestations in economic and social life.

9213

CSO: 4209/170

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

HEALTHY ACTIVITIES CAN HELP YOUTHS TO DO GOOD BUSINESS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 14 Nov p 3

[Article by Vu Hoang Hien: "In the Center of Ben Thanh Market"]

[Text] A task that perhaps few localities think about is to develop the organization of youths in markets.

How many markets do we have in our country and how many young business people do we have there?

If we leave them to the "god of fortune," many young business people in our markets will only follow their mothers to temples, far and near, to worship on such occasions as "anniversary of the death of one's father in the 7th month and of one's mother in the 3rd month!" Many others -- both female and male -- have spent thousands of dong just to enrich those priests, physiognomists and drivers, who have been using state-owned vehicles to drive people around for pay. Let me tell them this story: The Youth Union chapter in Ben Thanh Market, Ho Chi Minh City, has organized very big and joyful camping trips to allow participants to escape the noisy daily bustle, to have a time just for themselves and to help one another to think of a couple of things beyond the normal daily activities.

Is there anybody who does not need a meaning for his life?

The image of "the new man" for these young business people at this early stage is very practical: not to quote exorbitant prices, not to switch items without the customers knowing about this and not to quarrel with the latter. In the past, there had been business people who not only pouted their lips and made a face at customers but also were ready to fight with them! Following collective trips and nights of artistic performances, these ills have seemed to decline. Recently, the Ben Thanh Market Youth Union chapter acted even more boldly as it stood up for the task of strengthening the Youth Union power in connection with management of the market. Members of the chapter did

not fear reprisals and joined with the market management board, which also consists mostly of young people, to push back many bad phenomena. Although in the first quarter of 1982 there were in Ben Thanh Market 14 cases of necklace snatching, 23 cases of "dividing up the money," 21 cases of stealing and pocket-picking, etc., in the last third quarter those figures have gone down to 3 cases of "dividing up the money," 10 cases of purse snatching, 16 cases of pocket-picking, etc.

In a wider sense, the youths' activities here are also potentially beneficial, for instance, for the great task of socialist transformation and for the circulation and distribution front, which currently is a hot one.

Thus everybody has his own self-respect. We must know how to address this self-respect, the self-respect of each individual and of each class of people.

5598

CSO: 4209/157

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES OF STATE TRADE AGENCIES DISCLOSED

Hanoi DOC LAP in Vietnamese 3 Nov 82 p 4

[Article by Phuong Ngon: "Smuggling Acts"]

[Text] Corporation N. has sold to the outside market over 100 tons of sugar supplied by the state for production purposes within the corporation's confines. This sale has brought a huge money differential to the corporation which has subsequently spent it at its own convenience. Though having signed a contract for cigarette purchase from H. City, Level-3 Commercial Corporation in C.L. Province has sold these goods on the spot to traders and made a profit of nearly 10,000 dong instead of taking them to its own locality for distribution according to plan. The bank in T.S. District, V. Province, has lent money to the district marketing cooperative to do business according to... the "benefit sharing" principle!

As defined by our law, such activities cannot be called by any name other than "speculation and smuggling." They are all the more serious because they have been carried out by certain economic organizations belonging to the state.

The state has promulgated regulations to punish offenses such as speculation, smuggling and illegal business. These regulations are spearheaded at all speculative, smuggling and illegal commercial activities no matter whether they are carried out by any individual, agency or organization whatever.

It is hoped that the competent organs will take measures to check the above-mentioned situation.

9332

CSO: 4209/145

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

SUBSTANDARD GOODS PRODUCTION, INADEQUATE RICE PRESERVATION DISCUSSED

Hanoi DOC LAP in Vietnamese 3 Nov 82 p 7

[Article by Bien Xanh: "Seemingly Unbelievable Stories"]

[Text] Deadly Danger

A few years ago, there were in Saigon only about five automobile tire producers whose principal job was retreading old tires. Since the demand for tires has increased continuously and simultaneously with the "production explosion," the automobile tire retreading business has "mushroomed" tremendously in Ho Chi Minh City. At present, there are about 200 producers and retreaders of tires for the La Da Lat and Yotota cars and even for the "big" Fargo's and De Soto's.

Unlike the manufacture of bicycle tires, the production and retreading of automobile tires requires good raw materials (even if discarded materials and substandard products are used) and a high technical standard (including a certain amount of machines). The reason is that if an automobile tire does not come up to standard, it may crack or explode when its beads break up while the vehicle is running; in such a case, a fatal accident may ensue. In fact, a number of cars had overturned and the passengers been killed [due to faulty tires].

However, because tire retreading is an "easy" business--that is, one which makes money easily!--many people including "tailors" and "office workers" who have never had the slightest knowledge about this trade have now opened workshops or shops to retread tires. Numerous "Tire Retreading Shop" signs have been seen sprung up throughout Ho Chi Minh City.

"Fast business, quick profit!" seems to have become a motto for the illegal businessmen who have taken advantage of the "production explosion" to "thrive" with impunity.

The opinion of serious producers in the city is that the state should have set up large installations or invested capital in joint state-private enterprises to produce and retread tires in order to reduce the waste of raw materials and simultaneously to stop these disorderly and deadly dangerous business activities.

More About "Shoddy" Products

Owing to his acquaintanceship, a friend of mine could recently buy a bicycle at a shop of the Handicrafts Cooperatives Federation. No sooner had he taken the bicycle out of the shop and ridden it on the road to his house than the ball bearing in the central axle started coming loose and squeaking while both pedals became dislocated. He had to bring his bicycle to a familiar repair shop (another acquaintance!) at the end of the road near his residential street. The repairman barely examined the vehicle and immediately exclaimed:

--This is a locally made ball bearing, my friend! After buying the bicycle and taking it out of the shop, you should have had all the balls replaced before riding it. Only by doing so could you be sure of its working condition. Look at my bearings which are made of 100 percent foreign balls! You see, they are so good!

My friend painfully paid more than 50 dong for the replacement of an entire set of balls. Yet he felt as dizzy as a drunkard when pedaling near his home. It turned out that the nuts which held the saddle pole and the handlebars had also loosened bit by bit...

"Shoddy" products are a rampant evil which not only bothers customers--who are scared of running into phony merchandises and being taken in whenever they have to buy locally made products--but which is also dangerous in the sense that it erodes the consumers' confidence in our domestically produced goods including those manufactured by joint state-private enterprises, not to mention the huge waste of raw materials and of the foreign currency used to import the rare ones.

Some may ask:

--Considering that a very large portion of the consumer goods made by the small industry and handicrafts sector have been contract-ordered by the state or consigned at the Cooperatives Federation's shops for sale, where are the Product Quality Control (PQC) agencies set up by various sectors? Has the city dubbed "consumer goods producing center" not set up any responsible organ or promulgated any law to deal with phony or substandard goods?

The answer is yes, all of that does exist and covers everything from the "registering of trade marks" for new types of goods to the inspection preceding the reception of merchandises and their storage, withdrawal from warehouses and ultimate sale. But the two towering words "NEGATIVE PRACTICES" have rendered the function of these agencies ineffective!

The time has come to set up a PQC (Product Quality Control) organ to... control the quality of even those PQC agencies! Let us check [negativism] right at the doors of the "shoddy" goods producing installations.

How Could a "Precious Food" Be Left in Such a State?

At a meeting held at the office of the Ho Chi Minh Municipal Industrial-Commercial Liaison Committee to review the weekly situation, many representatives pointed out that a large portion of the rice which the grain shops sold last month at the supply price to cadres and manual and office workers was so rotten and moldy that it crumbled like bran at the touch of a hand!

A representative of the rice transportation sector then rose up and spoke:

--Gentlemen, the moistness, moldiness, spoilage and friability of the rice were attributable neither to the shops nor to the mills but to the fact that it was rotten from the very beginning. We know this very well because our fleet of sampans and barges have been used over the past few years to carry from the delta provinces to our city the rice purchased and collected under obligation. This is how it all started: Formerly, landowners, or rice dealers going to the provinces to buy rice had to build warehouses before-hand to stock it in huge quantities. The landowners possessed granaries and the capitalists warehouses. Rice was adequately preserved during the transportation by sampans to Saigon; otherwise, they would sustain a loss. Under our present regime, the obligatorily collected or purchased paddy is entirely taken from villages and there is no warehouse to stock it in the districts and provinces. Our sampans have to go to each village to pick up paddy and carry it away. All the paddy delivered and sold by peasants to the state is poured down on yards and roadsides and even right on the roads. Packing bags are also in short supply. Paddy is left in the open come hail or shine. The village yards are sometimes waterlogged. Under such conditions, how can spoilage and rottenness be avoided? The villages have no stevedores at all or only a few of them. These men will do the job only if they are treated to a meal with alcohol or sometimes offered a slaughter dog! The owners of sampans and ships have to foot the bill. Since we have spent much effort, gasoline and oil in our trips to the villages, we have to wait if the men responsible for weighing and stevedoring are sometimes busy... playing football, which is quite bothersome! What a sad sight of the rotting paddy and rice! After loading our sampans and ships with rice, we go back to Saigon where, on our arrival, a group of stevedores comes down from the riverside to take a glance and ask 2,000 dong from a barge and 1,000 dong from another sampan. If the money is paid, the cargo will be unloaded immediately; otherwise, we will have to wait...

At this point, the audience seemed to get more impatient than the storyteller and noisily asked:

--Have you informed the grain sector of this situation?

--Gentlemen, we had repeatedly notified the Municipal Grain Service of the moistness and rottenness of rice not only recently but... a year ago. Yet the situation remains unchanged! According to our rough estimate, the paddy and rice carried from the western provinces to Ho Chi Minh City suffer a minimum deficit of over 20 percent and half of their total volume may spoil if they are carried farther. Let me tell you that formerly the rice bought

and carried by dealers from the provinces to Saigon could usually be exported immediately. But our rice is now... We know because we own sampans and ships and have been specialized in transporting paddy and rice from the Mekong River delta to Saigon for several decades...

The audience shook their heads with a sigh:

--How could the grain sector leave a "precious food" in such a state?!

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AGRICULTURE

ACUTE SHORTAGE OF DRAFT POWER REPORTED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 28 Dec 82 p 2

[Article by Minh Hoang, Bac Thai Province: "Draft Power for Agricultural Cooperatives"]

[Text] Carrying out the product contracting policy, farmers are striving to turn the 1982-83 winter-spring season into a high-yield one; however, many cooperatives are encountering difficulties in draft power. In our opinion, aside from caring for and protecting buffaloes and cattle during the winter, the cooperatives must send out healthy and honest members (trusted by the people), or sign contracts with district agricultural stations, to acquire more bovines for supply to production units. In recent months, although the Draft Bovine Supply Corporation has made a big effort, it has failed to meet the peasants' need. In early 1982, a number of provinces, such as Cao Bang, Ha Tuyen, Thanh Hoa and Ha Bac..., have complied properly with the notice setting norms on bovine purchase and supply. By contrast, a number of provinces have refused to accept the norms. The year 1982 marked the 1st year in which the provinces used bovines to barter for grain and consumer goods. Bovine prices on the market have doubled; worse yet, some localities have increased them by 2.5 to 3 times over 1982, giving rise to the scramble for bovines between merchants and agricultural supply cadres.

Transportation of bovines from the mountainous regions down to the delta is still difficult. Some localities regulate the exporters of bovines, including those who have the necessary papers (permits issued by village and district administrations, laissez-passers...). Control stations along the highways often harass peasants sent out by their cooperatives to purchase draft bovines.

It is hoped that the Ministries of Agriculture, Finance, and Home Trade, and the sectors concerned will consider ways to ease the flow of bovines from the mountainous region to the delta. Regulations must be issued (possibly including a tax) to control that flow, and create favorable conditions for cooperatives which need draft bovines. In sending out representatives to purchase bovines, the cooperatives must carry out necessary procedures and obtain appropriate papers. Banks must strive to extend loans to district agricultural supply stations. It is hoped that the Council of Ministers will assign to midland and mountainous provinces concrete quarterly and yearly norms on obligatory supply of draft bovines. Correct compliance of localities with these norms is mandatory. Cooperatives in midland and mountainous regions may be asked by the state to fulfill their food obligation by delivering draft bovines instead of hogs.

AGRICULTURE

HAU GIANG OVERFULFILLS 1982 GRAIN PURCHASING NORMS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 27 Dec 82 p 1

[Article: "Hau Giang Exceeds 1982 Norms on Agricultural Products, Food Purchases"]

[Text] In 1982, the Hau Giang commercial sector, with the cooperation and support of other economic sectors in the province, has organized properly the state-run mechanism and the marketing cooperative network, actively transformed commodity sectors, strengthened market management, and paid attention to fostering technical cadres' capabilities, etc. As a result, it has properly achieved the year's norms.

The total of commodity purchases amounted to 885 million dong, exceeding the plan by 309 million, and topping last year by 357 million. The total of commodity sales amounted to 1,402,000,000 dong, exceeding the plan by 316 million. Commodity, agricultural product and food purchases have all over-fulfilled the plan. Hau Giang has purchased over 9,000 tons of live-weight pork, and delivered to the central echelon 4,700 tons in 11 months, exceeding the delivery norms by 700 tons. Hau Giang will deliver an additional 300 tons in the last month of the year.

As of November 1982, the province has purchased 15,000 tons of raw sugar of good quality, of which it has delivered 9,000 tons to the state, exceeding the plan by 1,000 tons; it has also purchased 20 million duck eggs (including 15 million salted ones for export), exceeding plan by 14 million; and 4,100 tons of freshwater fish--an increase by 2.6 times. Norms on poultry, fresh vegetables and fruit, salt, etc., have been overfulfilled by 100 to 320 per cent.

Because it has organized properly the purchasing network and kept close tabs on sources of agricultural products and food, in 1982 Hau Giang has also--aside from fulfilling the norms on delivering products to the central echelon--actively assisted Ho Chi Minh City and other provinces, with the delivery of 400 tons of live-weight pork, 912 tons of buffalo meat, and beef, 1,404 tons of freshwater fish, 11,000 tons of fresh vegetables and fruit, 3.4 million eggs, 261 tons of raw sugar, and 193 tons of yellow sugar, etc.

The Hau Giang commercial sector has promptly catered to the essential needs of over 100,000 cadres, workers and civil servants, of armed forces personnel and their dependents, with the supply of some 7,500 tons of live-weight pork, 371 tons of sugar, etc.

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AGRICULTURE

BRIEFS

OVERFULFILLMENT OF EXPORT PLAN--As of 20 November, Hau Giang Province has achieved an export value of 66,365,000 dong, and over 2.5 million dong in foreign currency, exceeding the year's plan by 8.8 percent. Two main commodities topped the list, frozen pineapple with 600 tons, exceeding the plan by 100 tons, and frozen shrimps with 11 tons, enough to meet the norms. In the last month of the year, the Tra Noc Frozen Vegetable and Fruit Enterprise strived to bring the volume of frozen pineapple up to 3,110 tons [as published]. As of 26 November, Hau Giang has also achieved nearly 115 percent of the province's export plan. Main commodities were pineapple, orange, fresh banana, frozen lobster and mung bean. Of imports, 85 percent is materials for agricultural production, fishery, communications and transportation and construction. Consumer products accounted for only 12.8 percent. [Text] [Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 22 Dec 82 p 2] 9213

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HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

EDITORIAL STRESSES THE NEED TO STEP UP COAL PRODUCTION

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 12 Nov 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Exploiting More Coal for the Fatherland"]

[Text] For the time being and in the next 5-10 years coal is the country's important source of primary energy. Coal helps ensure the development of many sectors in the national economy, including such important sectors as electric power, machine industry, metallurgy, chemistry, production of consumer goods, etc. It is also an export item of great value. To step up coal exploitation is one of the country's important tasks in the 5-year plan of 1981-1985. The 5th Party Congress resolution points out: "Strive to bring the 1985 coal production to 8-9 million tons and to create nearly 5 million tons of overlapping output for the 1986-1990 plan."

So far the coal sector has succeeded in building quite a great material and technical base, with the mines having modern coal extracting and transporting equipment, railroad networks, sorting facilities, loading ports and repair and manufacturing shops. With a body of cadres and workers having strong revolutionary traditions, the clear-sighted leadership of the party, the control and close guidance of the Council of Ministers and the assistance of different sectors and localities, mostly Quang Ninh Province, the coal sector is trying to move forward and to fulfill the task assigned to it. However, many potential capabilities remain to be further exploited. The underground mines have not yet reached the producing capacity as planned; the rate of use and productivity of vehicles and machinery remain low in the open-cast mines; the operations of the coal-sorting factories are far from stable; the machine works have not yet developed to the right degree the working capacity of machine tools. In management there still are many shortcomings; labor productivity remains low; plans are far from fully carried out. The use of coal in the national economy still shows a lot of waste. The social results of coal exploitation have not yet been heightened.

To step up the exploitation of coal in the current 5-year plan is first of all to actively exploit to the highest degree the potential capabilities of the coal sector in order to boost output and to improve quality, with the focal point being to concentrate on synchronizing the production installations and assembly lines that have not yet been satisfactorily built, such as the Cua Ong Coal Sorting Factory No 2 and the coal mines of Cao Son, Vang Danh, Ha Lam, Thong Nhat, Mong Duong-Khe Cham, etc.; to ensure the progress of building at the large automobile and machine repair shops, the expanded Cam Pha Center, the expanded mines of Mao Khe, Na Duong and Nui Hong, and the Uong Bi Sorting Factory; and at the same time to urgently prepare for operating the Khe Tam and Nui Beo coal mines and the Duong Huy Sorting Factory with the technical assistance of the Soviet Union.

To achieve the above-mentioned guidelines, we must strengthen the association among all sectors in the country and win the international cooperation; gradually overcome the lack of balance that now exists in the coal sector in connection with supplying materials, ensuring the supply of parts for production and repairs and restoring equipment and machinery; build infrastructures; and take good care of the material and cultural living conditions of the people who are directly involved in production, first of all the workers who extract coal underground, etc. To study a renewal of management, aimed at developing the spirit of socialist collective ownership among cadres and workers and the initiative and creativity of production and business installations and creating favorable conditions for stepping up the application of advanced techniques and the effective use of the economic levers, is of decisive significance.

In addition, we must actively exploit the scattered sources of coal in the provinces to satisfy part of the local need and to reduce the amount of coal to be transported from afar, try to get more fat coal, gradually satisfy the need of the railroad and metallurgy sectors, step up geological surveys serving as the basis for drawing up projects and plans and build the mines to promote steadier production. In the next few years, as the volume of coal produced will be increasing quickly, we must have appropriate investment in the means of transportation and ensure full consumption of all of the coal extracted.

Since our coal resource is limited and the costs of production are high, to be extremely economical in both extraction and consumption must be considered a major policy. We must use coal only for the most fruitful purposes; use other forms of energy like firewood, biological gas, etc. in the place of coal wherever conditions permit; and widely develop the movement to save coal everywhere and in all localities, for the purpose of raising the effectiveness of coal production in a total manner and in the entire society.

To extract more coal for the fatherland with the highest economic results is the task of the country as a whole and every sector and everybody, first of all of our country's heroic and devoted miners.

On the occasion of the traditional festival of the coal sector workers this year (12 November), along with the working people throughout the country, let the coal sector, with enthusiasm and self-confidence, continue to step up the emulation movement to successfully fulfill the 1982 state plan and at the same time create favorable conditions for fulfilling its 1983 task right from the first day and aiming at the target that the Party Congress has set for 1985.

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TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

ORDER, SAFETY TO BE MAINTAINED FOR RAILROAD SERVICE

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 11 Nov 82 p 1

[Editorial: "Maintaining Order and Safety in Railroad Transportation"]

[Text] The railroad transportation sector plays an especially important role in serving production, everyday life and national defense. Our railroad lines run through most of our country's provinces and cities and consist of many communications centers, series of stations, bridges, as well as a network of complicated control and communications equipment. Consequently, to maintain order and safety in the sector is a permanent important task and a key requirement of the managerial work aimed at helping to ensure uninterrupted, safe and high-quality communications.

Although the railroad and related sectors and localities have made many efforts while carrying out this task, these efforts are not enough. Order at railroad stations and mostly on the trains is not fully maintained. Trains do not run on schedule and often make unscheduled stops along the way. Stealing, smuggling, speculating and illegal buying and selling of train tickets happen frequently. Recently, due to a slackening of the enforcement of the railroad sector's procedures and bylaws, many negative phenomena that continually occurred not only have caused inconveniences for the people but also have led to many losses of socialist properties.

The organization and management of the railroad sector must be improved to suit the need of its task and the nature of its activities. An economic sector having the nature of large-scale production must be organized and managed in a unified manner, be operated in a centralized way, have rules and a high degree of organizational and disciplinary assets and fully respect and implement the procedures and bylaws that have been adopted. The job of maintaining order and safety in the sector must be strengthened. This is the direct responsibilities of the railroad sector, the related sectors and the localities which the railroad lines run through, as well as the collective responsibilities of the

people and passengers. The railroad sector must properly organize control and patrol for the protection of bridges and tracks and materials and equipment on the lines; educate cadres and civil servants to raise their sense of responsibility and concept of organization and discipline; develop the right of collective ownership in protecting the socialist properties; and firmly fight stealing, smuggling, speculating in train tickets and other negative and destructive acts. Each cadre, worker and civil servant must be totally responsible, materially and spiritually, for the properties he is in charge of. Along with properly organizing services for passengers and dining cars, the railroad sector in coordination with the public security forces must maintain order and safety in the stations and on the trains and sternly handle all violations of its bylaws. Quickly restore the regular order on the trains and seriously carry out the regulations on safe and on-schedule runs; strictly prohibit any deliberate stopping of the trains along the way or holding them at the stations beyond the scheduled departure time. Any violations of the procedures and bylaws of the railroad sector causing losses of state properties and inconveniences for passengers must be handled in time and sternly.

Public security and army personnel and tax cadres are the forces that actively contribute to maintaining communications order and safety. When they carry out their task, these forces are absolutely responsible for observing the train operations regulations. Inspection, control, search or confiscation and holding of goods and baggage of passengers must be carried out in full compliance with the law and state regulations. No sector or locality can on its own initiative create its own rules, organize inspection stops to check and to load or unload passengers and goods, or deliberately open crossovers or build any works within the safety space limits of the tracks.

The localities where trains pass through must on a permanent basis teach their people the concept of protecting bridges and tracks and at the same time properly organize patrolling forces to help maintain communications safety in the areas they are in charge of.

To maintain order and to ensure safety is the first essential step that efforts must be concentrated on carrying out properly in order to move toward restoring the entire operation of the railroad transportation sector to regular order and responding to the urgent demand of the economy and the desire of the people to travel in a convenient manner.

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HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

ARTICLE LOOKS INTO ADEQUACY OF CITIES' WATER SUPPLY

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 13 Nov 82 p 3

[Investigative report by Hong Khanh: " Do Cities Have Enough or Not Enough Water? "]

[Text] Lagging Behind Population Increase

In recent years, the total water supply of the country's cities showed an increase every year. It increased from more than 1 million in 1976 to 1.5 million cubic meters a day in 1980. Hanoi's water supply increased from 140,000 in 1975 to 237,000 cubic meters a day early this year. Ho Chi Minh City has restored 11 additional wells and thus raised its daily water supply to 520,000 cubic meters a day now. Other municipalities and cities like Nha Trang, Haiphong, Phan Thiet and Rach Gia have also doubled or tripled their volume of water supply as compared with 1975. The average per capita daily water supply of our cities was 55 liters in 1975 and 80 liters at the end of 1981. But those increases did not keep up with the rate of population increase (including natural increase and mechanical increase) and other needs. In 1977, the number of people in Hanoi who got water from its water supply was nearly 800,000, but now this figure has reached nearly 1 million. In Ho Chi Minh City, where the people mostly had been doing business or staying idle and later switched to industrial production, small industry and handicrafts, services, etc., water consumption has increased. From 1976 to 1980, in the urban areas alone, just in the public health and education sectors, additional construction added some 15,000 more beds and over 600,000 square meters of classrooms for the vocational middle school and college students. These facilities, just like houses and factories, are followed by the water supply wherever they appear. Recently many families in urban areas began to raise hogs and catfish. According to preliminary investigation in a number of neighborhoods, the hog-raising families now used twice or three times as much water as compared with the time before they began raising hogs. Consequently, in municipalities and cities, the average per capita daily water supply has been decreased by 15-20 percent as compared with a few years ago.

Projects and Investment

The expansion of many sectors in accordance with the socioeconomic development plan was a necessity. But the fact that construction was not synchronized and did not follow the overall project and plan made the water supply sector, which was weak, still lacked a material base and was not yet put under a unified management, incapable of "acting" in time. In Hanoi, the Kim Lien-Trung Tu residential housing project was expanded to become three times larger than before, but investment in the construction of the water supply system to serve it was only minimally increased. The construction of the yarn-making mill in Vinh is about to be completed and when the mill starts production, it will need a volume of water equal to nearly one-half of the city's present water-supplying capacity; however, the construction of a new water processing plant will not be completed in time. Although the Vung Tau gas and oil services center has opened, the supplying of water to serve it has proceeded very slowly, and so on.

In the face of such an urgent situation, many localities were forced to get water in the "extinguish the fire" manner. There were two ways: first, to build above-the-ground wells by building embankments and dams and creating drinking water reservoirs; and second, to dig into the ground to build underground wells and to get water deep in the ground.

But because "everybody does things his own way," without respect for the common project, nor a close coordination among the geological, water conservancy and building sectors, there was a considerable waste of money. Some localities spent tens of thousands of dong on digging wells, but there was no water or the water coming from those wells was not consumable. Other localities like Haiphong were getting water from a river that flows through Hai Hung, but along the 17-kilometer pipeline water was often diverted and used to water crops or to clean stables. The Ba Ria water processing plant supplies water to the City of Vung Tau through a network of pipelines more than 20 kilometers long. But as the local water conservancy sector has built a dam above its source of water, which lowers the water level of this source by a meter, the plant has been encountering more difficulty in pumping water and has to use more alum to make water clear. More damaging was the fact that in a number of localities in former Nam Bo digging that was not based on survey and exploration with full scientific data caused the layer of fresh water to mix with the layer of saline water, thus harming the ecological balance. Even in Ho Chi Minh City, water in some drinking-water wells has gradually turned more saline.

The supplying of equipment, parts and some chemicals like alum to the water processing plants was just patchwork and scattered efforts. Each year these specialized materials consist of over 1,000 industrial goods of considerable

quantities. But at present, due to a lack of division of production and general regulation, in most cases the localities are to manage to acquire them by themselves. Consequently, it happens that some localities have a surplus of them while others can hardly find any to use.

As to organization, at one time the job of getting and supplying water was about to be assigned to the Ministry of Public Health, but later it was assigned to the Ministry of Building. This unit has set up two water-supplying corporations in the southern and northern parts of the country, which have been working hard, mainly accepting bids for the building of water-supplying works. As to the machinery that helps to fulfill the state management task in the water supply sector, it consists of just a handful of people placed within the ministry's Department of General Affairs and has so far achieved only gathering of statistics and making of combined reports. The local water processing plants are subordinate either to the industrial service or public works service in some localities or to the building service or provincial people's committee in other localities. With its organization being so scattered, how can the water supply sector achieve a unified development in accordance with its projects and plan?

Spending Five Times Larger

Many water processing plant directors say that the present costs of a cubic meter of water as it reaches consumers range from 1 to 3 dong. Meanwhile, the price of water as it is collected from consumers is a few hao [1 hao equals 0.1 dong] per cubic meter. And more irrational is the fact that in the same street, quarter and subward the individuals who sell beef rice noodles, dye cloth, process fruits, raise animals, etc. and consume hundreds of liters of water a day also pay for water at the same rate as it is charged other families that consumer much less water. With such prices and formula for collecting water charges, according to calculations, the water processing plants each year will lose tens of millions of dong. How can they find capital for new construction or in-depth investment in their water-supplying systems?

Most water processing plants do not run at full capacity, in some localities at only 50 percent of their capacity. In addition to the lack of electricity, another reason is the lack of capital to be used to buy equipment, parts and chemicals. Ten kilometers of water pipes of larger size require nearly 500 tons of cast iron. A cubic meter of water that satisfies all hygienic standards requires a definite quantity of alum and chlorine. Although in the last few years we buried in the ground a network of water pipes totaling over 20,000 tons of cast iron, it satisfied only one-third of our need. If it were improved, the water supply network that runs from Uong Bi to Haiphong could boost its capacity from 6,000 to 16,000 cubic meters of water per day. Hanoi has 9 wells that operate only occasionally because of a shortage of the special ball

bearings 632. More than 70 wells in the municipalities and cities do not operate because of a shortage of pumps. An investigation of the 162 water-supply projects involving more than 500 machine units showed that 3 percent of all machines were to be written off, 65 percent went beyond the depreciation period (breakdowns frequently occurred) and 29 percent of the pipes of diameter ranging from 1,000 to 1,500 millimeters would need to be replaced or improved. However, most of them were not replaced or repaired because of a lack of capital for purchasing raw materials and parts. In the meantime, the Federation of Exploration Enterprises (of the Ministry of Building), which has modern equipment and is capable of doing exploratory drilling and getting water, did not have enough work to do. The casting enterprises of Tan Long, Mai Dong and Ho Nai and many machine enterprises, concrete-making shops, etc. that have skilled workers and are capable of casting cast-iron and concrete pipes of diameter less than 400 millimeters and manufacturing most parts did not operate up to their full capacity.

Recently, to get rid of the irrational way of doing things, some localities like Hanoi and Haiphong began installing additional water consumption meters, determining the levels of water consumption and altering the prices of water charged to different kinds of consumers. Many provinces and municipalities urged the people to contribute capital to improving and expanding their water-supply networks. These activities should be further encouraged.

Leakage and Waste

If we count only the municipalities, cities and towns in the country, the number of people being supplied with water accounts for nearly 70 percent of their population and the average per capita figure is 70-80 liters of water a day. At this level, if water comes regularly to the families that are supplied with water (with deduction of the allowed losses of water), there will not be any shortage of water. But for the time being, besides the fact that the capacity of equipment is far from fully used, the losses of water due to leakage and waste in the course of transportation and consumption are quite considerable -- in average, nearly one-third of the supplied volume of water. The actual average per capita water supply is thus reduced to 40-50 liters per day. If the losses of water due to leakage and waste in the cities alone are added up, they will amount to twice the current water-supplying capacity of Hanoi.

The ward and subward administrations and water processing plants do not closely coordinate their water-managing activities in accordance with their plans and zones and thus allow more people to build houses and to install water pipes without a permit to do so. A number of units in charge of building and installing water pipes do not have a sense of responsibility as they comply with the bad people's request to install additional water-supplying systems for their own use and disregard any general management principles. While the

water

sources of water that result from the pumping work of water processing plants are limited, the fact that the water that flows in the pipes gets divided illegally further reduces the pressure in the pipes, hence, the locations that are short of water will remain deprived of water supply.

To be able to have a cubic meter of water that satisfies all hygienic standards and to use it economically and effectively, there must be investment in scientific knowledge, equipment, parts and managerial capabilities, as well as coordination among many echelons and sectors concerned.

It is time to have a specialized organization, an appropriate unified institution of management. Only then will the exploitation of the water resource satisfy two needs: to properly serve the daily life and production and to ensure ecological protection.

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